

絵 鍋島テツヒロ

俺の魔力スポット 3

だった件

～住んでいるだけで世界最強～

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ダッシュエックス文庫

Ore no Ie ga Maryoku Spot Datta Ken

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Info: [Novel Updates](#)

Chapter 53: New Neighbor and New Habit

A few days after the battle with the Dungeon Master.

I was hard at work on the area around my house.

"Ummm, I guess putting a tree here would be alright..."

The after effects of the battle had left the forest in a tattered state. Especially the place that I'd left to Hesty...it had become a field of white ash. It seemed like she'd burnt everything along the way until she grew tired.

"I did it, on the way...it looks like, this now, but I was able, to take care of, a lot of them, all at once."

"I would've preferred it if you'd kept the cleanup afterwards in mind though..."

And so on, we continued chatting as Hesty and I (along with the golems) cleaned up the ashes. Then,

"Hello~! I've come to give my greetings~" (TN: No good way to put this in English)

"Huh? Anne?"

This was the first time I'd seen her since the feast.

"What'd you come here for? What's the greeting for? Are you already going home?"

Anne was an envoy from the Fort City. Now that the crisis with the Dungeon Master had been cleared up, there was no longer a reason for her to stick around this place.

So, I thought she'd come to say hello before returning home. However,

"No, that's not it. Now I will live in Prussia."

"!?"

"I will live near the forest. I have received land on the outskirts of Prussia, so I have decided to open an item shop there."

Hesty had completely frozen up. It seems like she'd received quite a shock,

but leaving that aside,

"Huh, is that so? What's this all of a sudden?"

I thought that she had a pretty high position in the fort city, didn't she?

"Well, I suppose that's true. But if it's just giving instructions, I can do that from here. Above all, I felt the desire to start making and selling items again."

"Oh yeah...you originally sold items didn't you?"

"Yes. And more than anything.....haa....haa...I'm closer to....Aneue-sama. I wanted to be able to breathe the air closest to Aneue-sama." (TN: I recoiled a bit translating this.)

She said as her face reddened.

Hesty stumbled backwards a bit when she saw that...it looks like she's received quite a bit of damage.

Well, I understand where this is coming from. The item shop is a pretense...

"Ah, but it's not just Aneue-sama you know? Umm....well...just by being close to Daichi-sama, how should I put it...the feeling of being hit by that magical whirlwind around you...might become a habit....This is the first time I've felt such amazing~ power....."

Ohh, this is pretty bad.

I got dragged in too.

Looking at Hesty, I felt bizarrely sympathetic.

Anyways, as long as she doesn't cause me any trouble, she can have any kind of disposition or habit she wants...

"Haa....well, we've gone a bit off topic. Umm, with that I'll be living as your neighbor so I brought a potion."

"Potion.....oh that's right. I used the one you gave me before on Dianeia and it worked really well."

"Is that true!?.....then does that mean it's thanks to Daichi-sama that I received the land for my item shop?"

Though it seems like she's mumbling something, Dianeia took care of this well. That's a good thing.

"But anyways, that medicine's pretty amazing. It cured most of her wounds in a few moments."

"Well it's something I made with great confidence in its efficacy...Oh! Since you've used it, let's replenish it."

"Eh? Dianeia said it was precious, so is that really alright?"

I asked and Anne smiled cheerfully.

"Yeah! For me the opportunity to live closer to Aneue-sama is much more precious!! As long as you let me embrace her a little, I'll replenish whenever you want!"

She said and excitedly sidled up to us.
Of course...her gaze was locked on Hesty.

Hesty looked like she'd abandoned all hope and looked at me.

".....somehow, while we were talking, it turned into me, getting embraced."
"Well...ummm? If you really can't stand it, just tap out and run to me."

And just like that, after hugging Hesty, Anne refilled the medicine.
Furthermore, it seems like we've just received a new next-door neighbor.

Though I say next-door she's a bit far away...

Chapter 54: Relaxing Comfortably, Annihilation

It'd been a while so I was goofing off in the garden and simply basking in the sun.

"You're, really looking, listless."

"It's alright Hesty. It's just been a while since I had a day that I could truly take it easy."

Thinking back, I feel like I've been moving around a lot.

Sometimes it's good to just laze about and soak up the sun.

"....so Hesty, What are you up to?"

Hesty was beside me sorting through the mountain of magic stones.

"I'm separating, the ones that can be used in staves and wands, and the, consumable ones."

"Is there a difference between them?"

"Yes. The larger ones, can have magic put in them for, multiple uses. Smaller ones, are better for one use. The small ones, are better used for, magic bullet propulsion."

Huh, she's knows about such things?

"I know, tentatively about, weapons like this. There was once, when I had to use, a lot of magic stones, to play around, and send someone flying, like a human cannonball."

"Is that really playing around?"

"There are sometimes, young dragons, that are afraid of flying. Using these as, propellant, we force them to fly. Flying, is like a coming of, age thing."

Is it like a reverse bungee jump? The scale is different though.

"This time, we have a lot. If used for flight, you can fly a lot. You want to?"

"No, I'll pass. I'd rather relax in the sun instead of take part in something that requires that much courage."

"n~...there's monsters here and there, in the area, but even so, will you continue laying down?"

Just like Hesty said, there were monsters that had gathered around my garden, but they were being repelled by my golems. But anyways, it's the usual hustle and bustle. I don't really need to go handle it myself and I can just relax here.

"n, but I thought, it seems particularly, strongah, it got sent flying."

Besides for the golems that I move myself, I have independently moving golems that automatically repel intruders. That's why I can settle down in complete relaxation.

"Ahh, yep. This kind of luxury is the best...."

Or so I thought when,

"Eh?.....w-wait, I was just thinking of coming in from the back for once. I'm not going to do anything you know!?"

"Huh? I hear something weird..."

"W-wait please Golem! L-look I'm disarming see? So please, w-wait don't take off my equipment. Not my armor hey!!"

Somehow I ended up seeing the witch princess dilly-dallying with my automatic golem.

"...what did you come here for?"

If she came from the usual direction she wouldn't have been caught by the golems like this, why did she have to come from the north instead?

So there's no accidents I have the golems set to disarm people. But for some reason it seems like they remove clothes too...hmm...

"I don't, know why, but are you alright, not stopping it?"

"Ahh....yeah I guess. But let's wait for a little while longer...then I'll stop it."

There are still monsters around...it'll also take time to turn them off and reactivate them.

"n, I understand. I think the monster's, will be finished, in a few more minutes."

"I see. Well, let's wait till then."

"Wai— Someone! Not someone...DAICHI-DONO!? H-Help me—!!!"

Chapter 55: The Rulers of the Forest

Dianeia was liberated from the golem's thick arms and collapsed in front of the tree stump.

"Uuuu....that was awful..."

"That's what happens when you try to let yourself in the backdoor. Anyways... What's up halfnaked-hime?"

"Even though the one that made me half naked was your golem.....!"



Dianeia said as she looked at me reproachfully. She then proceeded to fix her appearance.

Then, after she had put her equipment back on and wiped the tears from her eyes, she started to speak.

"I was conducting an inspection of this area."

"An inspection? What happened?"

"Though the dungeon hyperactivity stopped, there is no reason to let down our guards...or so I was thinking. It's a matter of public safety."

Public safety huh?

Prussia seems like it gets attacked by monsters quite often, so I understand their caution. Still, this princess is a serious girl as always.

"But why were you walking around there? Did some kind of dangerous monster appear?"

"No, that's not it. It's just that the Rabbit race has a stronghold set up in that direction and it's a bit suspicious, so went to take a look."

"Rabbits huh?"

If I remember correctly they're the ones that split this territory with the wolf people. They're name should be...Combat Rabbits or something like tha

I've never met them before though...

I don't know why they don't meet up with them. When I asked to go meet with the rabbits, the wolf people said,

《If you meet the rabbit people, Our King's wife might end up in a bad way...》

Or so they said some nonsense or other. I wonder what they meant.

"At any rate, what's going on with them?"

"I received a report from the leader of the wolf people. They seemed to be abandoning their villages. When I went to check it out, I discovered that they were indeed abandoned."

"Something bad must have happened to drive all those combat rabbits out right?"

Dianeia paused for a few seconds after she heard what I said. She seemed to be struggling to figure out how to say something.

"Ummm, do you know the special traits of the combat rabbits Daichi-dono?"

"I've never met them before, so how should I know?"

"I see. Ummm, the combat rabbits true name is Night Bunny ok?Umm at times they suck out men's...energy. Those women are the type who recover

magic power from sexual desire."

What? What did she just say?

".....Night Bunny? How'd they end up with the name combat rabbits then?"

"There are three reasons they received that name. One is in consideration of children. Two is that they are actually strong in a fight. They can usually handle 2 or 3 regular adventurers easily. —and the final reason is.....the men in town say that their 《Night Fighting Strength》 is used on the men's 'roots' to recover their magic. The title is to express how fearsome their 《Night Fighting Strength》 is..."

Hmmm...it seems like fighting strength is taking on a bit of a strange meaning here.

Umm...how should I put it...I kinda want to meet them at least once...for various reasons.

"....Daichi-dono? Your face looks kind of weird right now?"

"It's your imagination. So, where are those combat rabbits now?"

I'm not really so sure about calling them Night Bunny...so I'll stick with combat rabbit.

"Well while I was searching for them I ended up here. Because of their nature...of taking energy, I wanted to catch some and ask them what was going on.....I followed their tracks but still can't find them...I don't know what else to do..."

As Dianeia continued to talk,

"nee, are those bunnies, these guys?"

"Hm?"

Hesty called out to her.

She was poking at the passed-out monsters in the outer circumference of the garden but,

"Were they, mistaken for, monsters because they attacked?"

Among the monsters there were women with rabbit ears and tails.

"Oh for real?"

"Kyuuuu~~"

Their eyes were spinning as they laid there completely unconscious.

"...how should I put this...you work quickly Daichi-dono."

"Well, I didn't originally intend to make quick work of them though..."

Be that as it may, they had come to attack me.

It seems like I'll have to have a little talk with them.

Chapter 56: The Rabbit's Merchant House

After putting away the golems, the rabbits woke up after quite a while.

"n....."

"Oh, you're awake?"

"Wh-.....this place is....!?"

I called out to the most important looking one....by that I mean she was wearing a crown.

"I gonna need to talk to you for a bit ok?"

"Eh.....?"

Then the moment she saw my face,

"Hiiii.....!!"

I received a reaction that I hadn't seen for quite some time.

Sssss the unmistakable sound of peeing came from between her legs.



The other rabbits began to shiver in fear as well.

.....ahh, how nostalgic.

"H-hey what's that look for!?"

Somehow, I had forgotten. There were people around me who were used to me...like dragons and strong people so I had completely forgotten.

I let my guard down and this is the result.

"It looks like...I should definitely remember to hold my magic back when I meet someone for the first time."

If this happened whenever I met someone, I wouldn't be able to stand it. Let's ask Hesty about learning this.

But not right now, now I need to,

"I want to talk to you, do you think you can manage?"

"Hii, uh.....yes...."

The leader looking bunny nodded while shaking. It should be that. The leader-like one should be stronger.

"Why did you attack me with the monsters?"

"W-we didn't come to attack you!.....W-well, we did come to attack in a different sense of the world, but we didn't intend to harm you! We could never do such a thing to a man with such high quality magic!"

"Really?"

"Wa-Yes! So please—leaving me aside, I beg of you! Please forgive the girls behind me!"

Her rabbit ears were standing straight up and she was desperately begging me. It seems like she wasn't lying.

That being the case, it seems worthwhile to talk to them but,

"Hii....."

The girls shook fearfully whenever I moved. If it's like this, then we won't be able to calm down and speak.

"Man...calm down. I won't kill you guys."

"R-R-Really?"

"Yeah."

The things that lived in the forest mostly had a life or death view on things... but I was different. I tried to calm them before restarting our talks.

"Nn...ok then. Tell me, why did you try to attack me in the different meaning of the word? The other meaning is that right? It's sexually yeah?"

"Wa-yes. If we were to consume some of your lordship's 'vigor' our starvation would disappear...or so I was thinking."

"Starvation?"

These rabbits were starving? They have voluptuous bodies so I can't see them as starving.

"It's not for food. We are starving from 'vigor' and magic depredation. We had been fine up until now. The men of Prussia came over and we had gone sometimes, but recently they have almost stopped coming....it has become insufficient."

I see. So that's how they all began to starve and approached my place which was nearby.

"More accurately, it was a nearby place with you who has strong and plentiful magic. If you have this much then even if we all absorbed it, it'd still be completely fine....."

The rabbit leader looked at my body and said while blushing slightly. Nothing will come out even if you stare at me like that.

"Anyways, Dianeia. Is this kind of thing prohibited in the capital?"
"I don't think so? Even if the forest is dangerous, the adventurers usually go anyways...I wonder at the cause."

After hearing Dianeia's words, the rabbit leader pointed at her.

"The Merchant House at our town's entrance was crushed by rocks falling from the sky. We lost the data for all our visitors...."

"Rocks falling from the sky?"

It's been a while since I came here but....does it rain rocks here in this world? Well...this is a world with magic in it, so maybe someone sent them flying.

"So, because your store was crushed, you couldn't do business, and you ended up like this?"

"Yes.....if we can't move that huge rock, then we can't put up another shop...."

"All the rabbits seemed downhearted.

"It's a matter of life or death. If we can't recover our customer's data then we

can't resume our night business. Then we won't have the land or funds to rebuild....."

It seems like she's halfway to tears.
Umu, I wonder what should be done?

The biggest reason they came here was their crushed shop.
Even if they took out a loan and built a new shop, people won't visit if it isn't more easily accessible.

.....oh wait.

"We've got just the right person here don't we?"

I turned to look at Dianeia.

"Hm?"

But she just tilted her head back at me.
It seems like she didn't understand.

"You're the ruler of Prussia right? Then you can let them use some of the town's land and run a store there right?"

"Ahh.....now that you say it, that's right...!"

Did you really forget that until now?

"N-no, it's just that when I meet you I'm usually in my Arch-mage mode...so I kinda forgot....that's right, there's some left over land in the town that you can use."

"R-Really!?"

The rabbits' eyes started shining.

"That's right. My town doesn't have enough entertainment. I think an establishment that lets people vent would be perfect. It should also help with the adventurer's being a bit too rambunctious...but..."

"Is there a problem?"

"Mm. It's not a state-run business. I can't finance this myself, they will need to obtain funding from somewhere, do you guys have any ideas?"

She said, and the rabbits all dropped their heads sadly.
Well, if they had something like that, they would've already been able to start

rebuilding. But...hmm...that's right.

"I could build the house and loan it out..."

"Eh!?"

"Daichi-dono would? Is that okay?"

"Well, as long as I use some of the trees in the forest it should be pretty easy."

My payment would be...a bit of entertainment using the skills that I'd learned for fun.

The materials are all from the forest, so I stand to lose nothing.

What's more, if I left these rabbits out in the cold, they might come attack again.

They're not really a threat, but it's an annoyance.

That's why making them a shop once and letting them work in it, is easier. Also...I have a bit of interest in going as well.

"Alright then, I will lend you land and a shop. Can you do this?"

"Wa-Yes!!"

All of the rabbits nodded vigorously.

"W-we will never forget this favor for the rest of our lives! Thank you very much!"

She said and the rabbit women all rushed up to hug me.

They were really soft and fluffy.

Somehow, just by touching them...I got the feeling that, rabbits are great.

Un...I can understand how the adventurers got caught by this.

"n.....somehow, it feels like there's, black magic power, coming from the top floor, of your house."

Hesty said...but I decided not to mind it.

—in the future.

The outskirts of Prussia would host a "Bunny Bar".

It was a place where many brawny men would frequent...but that is another story.

Chapter 57: Rapidly Collecting, Quickly Using

A few days after resolving the rabbits' problem, I was sitting in the garden with my chin in my hands.

"Hmmm....urrrmmm....ugh...."

"Hm, what's wrong? It's rare for, you to look, so preoccupied."

"Well, the rabbits' shop that I invested in is really popular. They're doing fantastic business but...they said 『This is the rent!』 and brought this."

At my feet was a big bag of silver coins.
There was probably about 1,000 of them.

I had finally found out that the standard currency in this world is gorudo (not gold).

1,000 silver coins equals 1,000,000 gorudo. Basically a million yen.

".....well, that's certainly, amazing."

This seems to be the result of several days of sales.
An average fee of 10,000 gorudo...and a line of adventurers.
Those bunnies seem quite capable.

"Isn't it, good, to earn more?"
"Well, yes...as a concept. But what am I gonna do with all this stuff I don't need?"

Those rabbits had desperately passed it to me.

『This is the least we could do for our benefactor! If it's not enough we will use our lives in exchange!!』

Or so they said, so I ended up accepting.
My principle is to accept the things I'm given...but I'd rather not accept their lives. But really, these guys give up their lives far too easily.

"n, and so, why do you have a bag of money, sitting here?"
"It won't fit into the safe room."

I had put the money I'd gotten up until now, into a safe room and left it there. The safe room has already taken up 2 rooms worth of space.

I gave some to Hesty and the wolf people, but it still increased. Pretty soon, if I don't use it, it's gonna be bad.

If I don't, then my house is just going to become a bank tower.

"But, do you have, anything, you want to buy?"

"Nope. I even asked Sakura if she wanted something, and she said there wasn't anything in particular....."

She looks just like a human, but she really doesn't have many worldly desires. But I'm the same in that I don't have much I want to buy.

My hobbies would be enjoying the orchard and garden of my house, making golems for fun, making bullets from monster materials, and making armaments for my golems.

None of those require any money.

".....your golems are, getting stronger, day by day, and it turns out, it's your hobby."

Hesty seemed surprised, but I enjoy it so it can't be helped. It's amazing, recently I succeeded in making a huge golem.

At any rate, that's why the money has accumulated. Before, I just pushed it on the wolf people, but they begged me not to do so anymore.

And so, I asked my last ray of hope Hesty...

"Does Hesty need--?"

"I, already have, enough."

"—un, I understand."

The funds are plentiful.

It seems like she doesn't need more than I've given her.

"I could go use it at the rabbits' place, but it's not expensive enough."

".....n~...n? You know the price?.....you went there?"

"Just a bit."

I had persuaded Sakura so there's no problem.
...though at times black magic power had come out...but that's beside the point.

"In the end, can I do nothing but gather this?"

I have more space, and I can gather more, but I'd prefer to spend it.
As I was thinking, I lowered myself to the floor and laid down when,

"Daichi-sama! Aneue-sama—!!!"
".....ge"

Anne came running over. When Hesty saw her she had an obviously displeased expression on her face, and ran to hide behind me.

"Aneue-sama Aneue-sama Good morning!!"
"D-don't h-hug me!"

She was caught and crushed between Anne's huge breasts.
When Hesty's together with her I get to enjoy her various expressions, but let's leave that aside...

"What's up Anne? Something up?"
"Ah, yes! Actually, just some time ago, my store was finished!"

Oh the item shop huh? I heard it was under construction, but it's already finished?

"Yes. I was thinking of inviting Daichi-sama, Aneue-sama, and Sakura-sama to the grand opening."

"and so you ran all the way here?"

"Yes! Plus I was redecorating the interior nonstop so I was thinking it was time for me to recharge my Aneue-sama tank...haa....haa.....if I received Daichi-sama's scolding attack I may collapse, so I worked hard all morning!!"

Oh...I see.
If she had arrived too early then I wouldn't have been pleased. I may have scolded her.
I'm glad my prediction was off.

"uu, it's sad but, I can only refuel when I cuddle Aneue-sama."
".....Ugh...!!"

It's their usual antics. Leaving that aside,

"Anne, your item shop is finished, so you have things to sell right?"

"Yes. I have things all stocked perfectly.....though my savings are all used up and I'm poor. Ahaha, I don't even have enough for breakfast tomorrow!"

Anne said as if it was extremely trivial.

She's a dragon king and she doesn't think before or after she does things. Is this really alright for her to live like this?

"But as long as I have Aneue-sama, I can recover magic power and survive! So I'm fine!"

"Oh, ok....."

Well, that's right. As long as she has things to sell, this is perfect.

"Then I'll go buy something."

"Eh? Is that alright? If you ask Daichi-sama, I'd give it to you for free."

"No, there is meaning in properly paying for things. So please guide me Anne."

"Ah, wa— yes!"

And so we decided to head to Anne's store.

Chapter 58: First Time Shopping

Hesty, Anne, and I all went to visit her new shop. It was located between the forest and the city of Prussia, directly off of the Main Road.

From the outside it looked like a normal one-story building, but on the inside there were many colorful goods beautifully displayed.

"Eh, you just finished it, but it looks pretty."
"I was taught that if it doesn't look as good as it works, then it's no good by Aneue-sama!"
"n....I did, say that, once."

Ah is that so?
It's true that all the wands Hesty makes are good-looking, so she has that kind of principle.

"Yes, I made it spacious so that it's no problem if you want to drop by for tea! Besides for tea, as long as you schedule it, you can come and throw magic at me and I'll be completely ok with it!!"

Leaving aside this shopkeeper whose face is turning red as she pants, this is a nice shop.
There are lots of items I've never seen so it's interesting.

"Next time I'll bring Sakura to look...there might be something she would want."

We had invited Sakura, but she said she had to stay and clean the house, so Hesty and I ended up going.
Well, whenever she wants to go I'll guide her, so let's do some shopping.

"Hey Anne. It's about time for you to come back to reality. I'm buying items for the first time so you need to explain them to me. Otherwise you can give me some recommendations."
"Ah.....th-that's right. Shopping comes first. Umm, what would you like Daichi-

sama?"

I don't have anything I really want...but ok.

Let's think about it differently. Just get something that I can use.

"I'd like something I can use on a regular basis."

"Regular basis.....then how about this?"

Anne brought out an earthenware pot with confidence.

"The moment you put these in soil, they'll grow rapidly. They're golem seeds that will obey you! You can leave all your chores to them you know!?"

"Ah, sorry. I already have something like this."

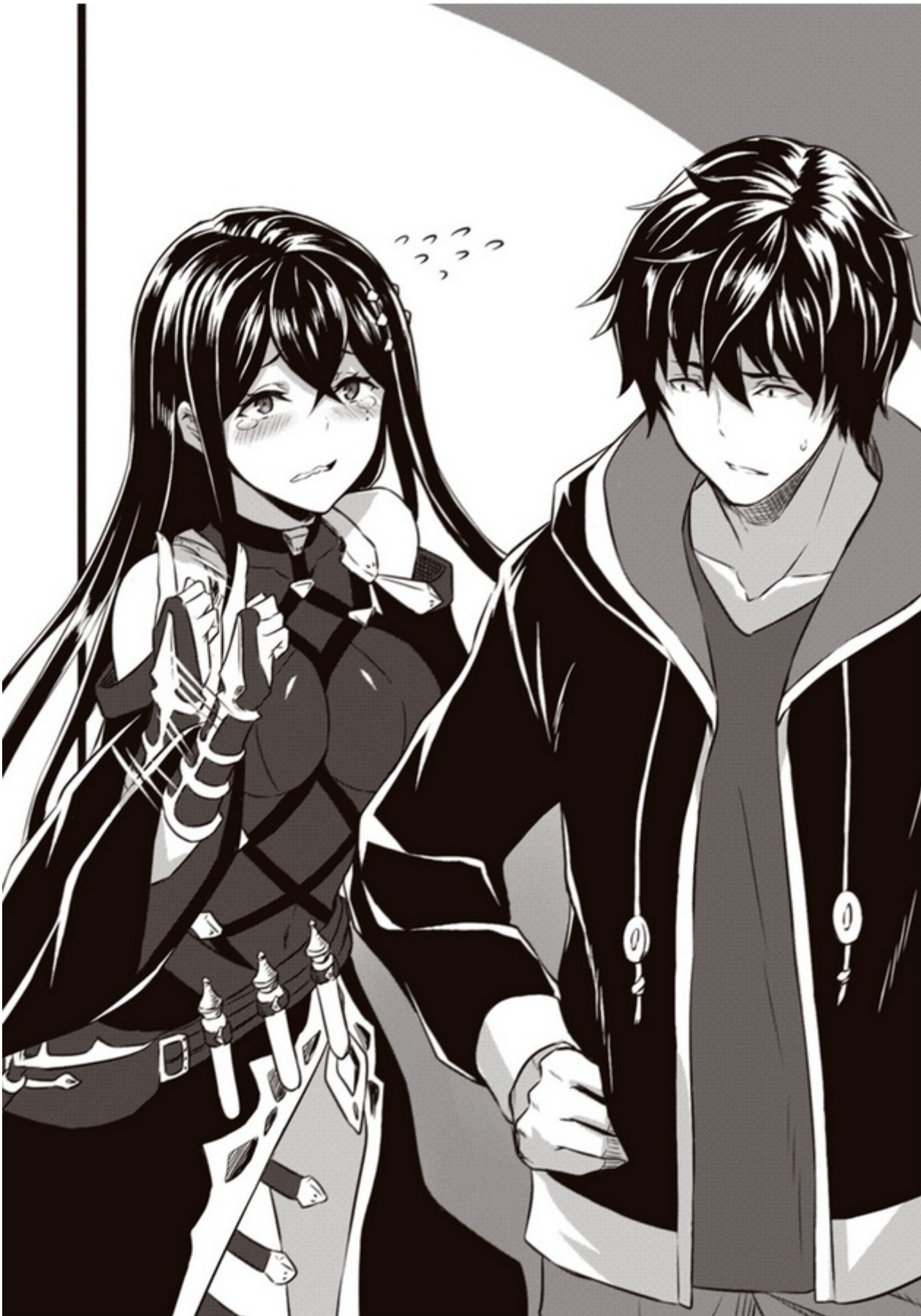
Actually, I create my own golems daily.

That's why, I don't need to use an item.

"Ah, th-that's right isn't it? Th-then this dragon crossbow that can shoot flying monsters out of the air....."

"Sorry, I have something like that too."

"Uh...umm...uuuuhhhhh....."



Her eyes looked like she was about to cry.

I wonder if this could be counted as me failing to go shopping on my own?

"Normally, people use items, to do things they can't do. You have too, many things that, you can do, so it's difficult."

"I know Hesty, that's what I'm discovering at this very moment."

Is it possible that I'm going to somehow reach a state of having no wordly desires or needs?

Anyways, there's no meaning to this trip if I don't buy something.

"...that's right. Do you have something like that potion you gave me recently? The most expensive one is best."

"E-expensive? Then how about this magic recovery potion!? It's something precious that I can only produce once a month!!"

Anne used her entire body to emphatically explain. Well, I am grateful but,

"...sorry. Instead of using that, I can eat an apple...."

I already have something that fulfills that role.

"Umm....is it possible that my items are useless....?"

Large tears started falling from Anne's eyes. This is definitely not good.

"Ah, no, that's definitely not true. Yeah, if it's a recovery potion, even I'd use it!!"

"B-but it's an ordinary recovery potion you know? Even if I made it, it'd only have a certain degree of effect, it's not very interesting you know?"

"No, it's good even if it's not interesting."

As long as I can use it, it's fine.

"Umm, the potion has different grades. I do have the highest grade one, but how much would you want?"

"How much is the best one?"

When she heard my question, Anne went into the back of the shop and came back with a bottle of golden liquid and set it down.

".....uh umm, this is the potion made with my flesh and blood, so it costs 100,000 gorudo for one."

"Then I'll get 10."

I dropped a bag of silver on the table with a thud.

"Hyaa!?"

I grabbed the potion from beside the surprised Anne.

The bag of silver had turned into 10 bottles.

Un, this is light and easily carried.

"Umm.....i-is this really ok!? This is a lot of money you know?"

"I still have money so I don't mind."

"I-I see....even in the fort city this potion was too expensive and ended up as dead stock...but to think I sold it....."

Ahh, I see now. This was two birds with one stone. Both of us had gotten rid of some excess.

"Next, is there something I could use?"

"U-ummm.....other than this, something of this level...this wasn't very popular but....."

She said and brought out a scroll.

She held the glowing white scroll in her hands.

"This is?"

"A teleport scroll. If you undo the string that ties it, it will teleport you to a place you designate. Even without knowing teleportation magic you can use it."

"Huh, that's pretty useful, right?"

Basically, with this anyone can use Dianeia's method of transportation, right? This is a pretty good item.

"Well it's a one use item. The teleportation magic requires extreme control and adjustment, and making a scroll like this takes a lot of work. That's why it costs a lot, and it has poor cost effectiveness with distance travelled."

Huh, I guess Dianeia was more amazing than I thought.

"So, how much is one of them?"

"Umm.....one...one million gorudo."

I see. Good price.

"I'll take it."

I had brought some reserves in case I didn't have enough.

"Uhyaaa!?"

Bag after bag of silver thumped onto the table and Anne's eyes went perfectly round.

Un, I'm happy that she made such a profit.

"And so I finally got rid of some of it...thank goodness."

"n, but, the rabbits will, bring more next month, right?"

Because I told them it was a loan/rental they'll certainly bring it monthly.

"Well, I can just come here to spend it again. Is that ok Anne?"

Anne seemed to have lost her spirit, but she still nodded slowly.

"Ah, wa, yes. I will be awaiting your next visit."

"Thank you. Well, then, for now I'll be heading back."

When I thought about it, this was the first time I'd gone shopping since I came to this world.

....it was...kind of fun.

Thinking that I returned home with my single use magic and 10 potions.

Chapter 58.5: —Side Dianeia— Favorable Expansion, Omen

Office, Daytime.

Dianeia had been in a staring competition with her documents since last night.

She was checking the documents regarding the damage that had happened to the town in the previous incident, the repairs, and their growth. She checked each and every one.

.....I don't have much talent for state affairs, but I at least need to check the current state of affairs.

It's too late to think of a solution after a problem occurs. I'll be unable to fight against these problems even being an Arch mage. Or so she thought while reading about the city's development but,

"n?"

Dianeia let out a sound and the knight captain who was organizing paperwork nearby, turned and asked,

"What's wrong princess?"

"The western district is doing very well. Compared to the other districts, its financial condition is very good."

Compared to the other districts, the repairs were 20% faster and it was currently expanding. I wonder if something good happened to improve business?

"That's right. According to reports, a few locations are receiving huge amounts of cash flow which seems to be stimulating the economy."

"What's the origin?"

"Umm, Anne Taidra-sama's store and the combat rabbits' shop are the influential points I've been told."

".....uumu."

Leaving the rabbits' store aside, I don't think Anne's store should be that popular, or so Dianeia thought.

I went to the store's opening and the sight of it having no customers is fresh in my mind.

....what she's selling are high quality things, but they all high priced commodities.

Well, she's a dragon king so those prices can't really be helped. Maybe she met a guest of honor who would buy her things...or so she thought when,

"Furthermore she said 『This was the money I received from that man, so I should circulate it.』, and so she went around to the surrounding stores and spent a lot of money. This could be considered manipulation, but it is overall beneficial to improve the financial status of the city."

"Ah, mm... I see."

I somehow understood everything from the knight captain's words.

"Princess? Did you figure out something?"

"Figured out?....I already have a decisive conclusion."

The main culprit...is definitely,

"....it's Daichi-dono."

"....I see. If it's that man, then it's definitely possible."

The knight captain nodded as well.

Actually, this is practically already decided.

There is almost no one else in this area that can move such huge amounts of money easily.

"This is another thing we need to express our thanks for. Knight Captain, I'll leave it to you to prepare something good."

"Wa.....but, we still have things we have yet to give him you know?"

"Well, we'll let them build up and give them to him in order."

We don't even know how many times he's saved our lives and defended the town.

So, even though we were thinking of giving our thanks, we have limits on our time, so I cannot go easily.

"Today I have to inspect the city, tomorrow I can move around freely. I'll give you til tomorrow to prepare."

"I understand."

"Well then.....let's continue with today's business. I'm off to inspect the city. After all, I need to go see how Daichi-dono's movements have affected us."

And so, Dianeia put on her equipment and headed into town.

Anne's store had the odd guest or two, but you could not honestly say it was flourishing.

She seemed free enough, that if you asked for some tea, she would happily serve you.

.....well she had just opened after all.

As time passes, anything can change. Dianeia thought as she went to go look at the other new shop.

"This place has another line today."

The rabbits' shop had a line form out front almost every day.

It was extremely popular with both the adventurers and citizens.

"The more the revenue increases, the greater our taxes...I'm quite thankful."

Though the male citizens may be deprived of their night fighting power, after this shop was made, public order slightly improved. It's a good method to let off steam.

"Above all, it's a healthy shop. It'd be difficult for problems to occur."

The environment of the town improved and the citizens can enjoy.
The economy is stimulated and the city expands.

More than half of these changes can be attributed to that man who lives on the magic spot. I'm quite thankful.

As I thought of him, my own heart began to burn and filled me with motivation. I should properly thank him.

Or so she thought, when Dianeia realized something.

".....oh, that's right. Speaking of the forest, I need to check up on the thing that caused the rabbits to run."

I definitely need to investigate rocks falling randomly from the sky.
Dianeia decided to move to the rabbits' village.

Dianeia teleported to the rabbits' village.

She casually received their greetings and asked to be guided to the fallen rocks but,

"So this is the rabbits' shop and the rock?....it's huge."

It was bigger than she could have imagined.

The big store was crushed by an even bigger boulder.
However, the boulder did not look like a standard stone.

Even if it was a rock, it had an awfully smooth surface and a grid-like pattern on it.

When you knocked on it, it gave off a light sound.

"It's not.....metal. What kind of material is this?"

Dianeia had no idea what this was. But what was certain, was that it was a threat.

"Even if it isn't a stone...to send something of such monumental size flying...it's dangerous."

Furthermore, just by touching it, she received a dangerous feeling.

She had no proof, just her gut instinct...but that was what her body was telling her, who had been in many life-threatening situations. So,

"Just to check, I should take it and have our research team study it."

Our research team is excellent. They should be able to produce quick results.

.....though I hope nothing troublesome comes of this.

Hoping that her own bad premonition was a needless fear, Dianeia returned to the castle.

Chapter 59: Effective Use of the Underground Space

"Hm? What's this?"

This morning I had decided to remodel my house. I was synchronizing with Sakura when I noticed a strange cave underground.

"What's wrong Master?"

"Well, there's this big cave underneath the house."

"Cave? Oh...there really is one. When we buried that Dungeon Master's magic stone I thought there'd be a change...but I didn't expect it to turn into a cave."

It seems like Sakura didn't know about this.

Well this is the first time I've synched with her in a while and the cave is pretty far down so it can't be helped.

"I'm just a bit worried having the ground underneath the house turn into a cave...I think we should investigate a bit."

"Oh, then I will accompany you. It's almost lunchtime, so I'll pack a lunch."

"Ok, I'll go give Hesty a shout. Things might get noisy underground."

After we'd finished our preparations, we opened a hole in the ground and began to head towards the new underground cave.

Hesty was interested as well and had decided to come with us.

"Ok then, I'll start."

Since I'd gotten used to remodeling my place with magic, making a path to the cave was quite easy.

I continuously opened up the way, and it ended up taking less than a minute.

Then...I saw it.

"This is.....really big."

"That's for sure ne~"

A cave that was bigger than I had imagined spread out underneath my house. It was both tall and wide.

Moreover, there shouldn't have been any light, but it was strangely bright.

"How should I put this....it seems like a dungeon."

I murmured and Hesty nodded her agreement.

"n, there's no, mistaking it. This is, a dungeon. Refined from, the dungeon master's, magic."

"Eh? Is that so?"

Then I wonder if there are monsters here?

"I don't mean it, that way. But, if you look, at the walls, you can see, it's a dungeon."

I did as she said and looked at the walls. There were shining stones stuck inside.

The ceiling and floor were the same. It wasn't just plain soil.

"This is, mixed with magic stones. They are, crystallized, here and there."

"Oh really?"

Since the surfaces were mixed with magic stones they were shining. Even if there's no light it's bright?

"Yes. They have walls of magic stones. That is, one of the main components, of a dungeon. Whether or not, there are monsters, it doesn't matter."

"Ohh...I see."

But is it really alright to have such a gigantic cave underneath my house??? If the ground is too weak, I'm worried that my place will start to sink.

"There is no need to worry Master. I...meaning the house, have strengthened the ground under it. There will be no collapse or sinking."

"n, also, these magic stone walls, are extremely strong. Even if they, break a bit, they will regenerate."

Hesty said and scraped the walls. The shimmering stones fell down, but soon afterwards it was repaired.

"See?"

"Wow. There's no problem then."

"n, actually, a dungeon like this, is basically a resource. You can take a lot, of magic stones."

Somehow this dungeon seems more like a mine. Hesty's face seemed happy somehow.

Actually, I was also a bit excited.

.... having such a cave-like structure here...kind of made me want to go spelunking.....

I thought and continued further with Sakura and Hesty. when,

".... it's getting hotter, right?"

I feel like the surrounding temperature has gone up.
I'm getting sweaty.

"Magic, is probably, being converted, into heat."

"Is something like that normal?"

"It's, like my breath, something like th—!?"

Hesty stopped moving and speaking on the spot.

"What's wrong?"

"I, probably can't continue, forward. The magic, there is, too thick."

Hesty said and pointed.

I looked and saw liquid that was letting out steam.

"N~? I don't really get it when you say how strong it is...but should I stay away?"

"Oh, then I'll go check it out. It doesn't seem poisonous."

Sakura said and slowly approached.

Then after looking at the liquid, she waved.



"Master, it's an onsen (hot springs) desu~"

"Huh? Seriously!?"

I approached and looked at the liquid.
Then I saw the hot liquid bubbling up from the earth.

"The heat—doesn't surpass 40 degrees Celsius. The water is alkaline, there

should be no damage to a human's body."

Sakura perceived. It didn't seem dangerous.

"There's no volcano around, but this is quite good."

"It is most likely from the heat of the magic stones. Furthermore, there is highly concentrated magic power mixed inside of this fluid."

"Would my body be alright if I jumped in?"

"There's no problem for Master. But if a normal person were to touch it their skin might come off..."

That's pretty scary.

"If you think about it normally this onsen would be hard to use, right? But it's only going to be used by us anyways."

I don't really have any idea what it'd do to people's bodies.

"Yes. If it's undiluted, then there are very few people who could use it."

"n, so you see, it's impossible, for me. I can't, approach."

Hesty called out.

I see, so Hesty was stopped by this hot spring.

"Is this bad even for a dragon king's skin?"

"It's, under the soil. It comes, near the Dragon Vein, so the magic is very, thick."

So, the effect is much too strong.

Then I wonder if this would be usable if I watered it down?

"Yes. If you watered it down, I could even use it to cook."

"Fumu fumu. It seems like it has various uses. For now, I need a water pipe or something to bring this up to the garden."

"Yes, I will help you Master."

And so, I carefully placed an apple tree above the location for the water pipe. Since I knew that if I brought it to the surface now it'd only be poison, I didn't allow it to well up from the ground just yet.

After I find a way to dilute it, I might make an open-air bath.

At any rate, that's how I was able to get myself a magic stone dungeon and a source for an onsen from my basement.

Chapter 60: Teleport

Evening. I was tampering with a golem in the garden when Dianeia came to visit.

"Fuu, it's been a while, but Daichi-dono's place is really calming."

And so she passed me a bag of money as usual and relaxed while drinking the tea that Sakura served her.

"My house isn't a café you know..."

"I.....sorry. It's just that I'm a simple mage when I sit in front of you so I end up feeling relieved...—O-oh that's right! Speaking of a café, the rabbits' house is quite popular. We need to thank Daichi-dono for that as well."

"Yeah, I know that already."

I knew that because the rabbits had come to visit just a day or two ago. It was becoming a bit troublesome that they kept bringing me money over and over and over and over...I really wish I could politely turn it down.

"Actually, you know what? It should be fine if you stop bringing money over sometime soon okay Dianeia?"

"Well...that's the thing you see...I don't have anything that I can give you except for money. I considered equipment, items, *etc.* but there's practically nothing I can provide. If there's another way I can demonstrate my feelings then that'd be good..."

I...don't particularly need a lot of money or items. However, I'm happy to receive things. I thought as I cleaned up my toolkit that I used to tamper with the golems when,

"Hm...? Daichi-dono? What is that scroll inside of your toolbox? It's rare to see you with something like that."

"N? Oh, this? It's something I bought from Anne's store. It's a teleport scroll."

"T-teleport!?"

I was just talking normally, don't surprise me by shouting like that. What's

wrong with you?

"Well, I was just thinking that pairing that scroll with your golems would make some kind of incredible tactic...like teleporting them into the middle of an enemy and having them rampage..."

"Wow...you have quite an imagination, don't you? But I'm not gonna do something like that."

"I-I see. Thank goodness. It's just that your strategic power is so high...I end up imagining some things..."

I see, but I haven't thought of using my things for such militaristic purposes.

"Oh, that's right. Is there any precautions I need to make when using this? I have no idea how to use this..."

If I used it and ended up buried underground it wouldn't be funny. I'd like to know what to do.

"It's pretty simple to use ok? When you open the scroll you will be teleported to the location written on the scroll's cord. However, there is one condition you need to pay attention to."

"Condition?"

"Yes. You need to have visited the place you are teleporting to at least once. It's necessary to understand the space that you'd like to teleport to."

Ehh was there such a condition?

"So...it's no good if I haven't visited it at least once?"

"Yes. That's absolute."

So that means it's probably that...I think I've got bad compatibility with this magic...

"If you don't check the place that you want to teleport to regularly, you could end up stuck inside of a wall. It's quite important."

"....I don't really get out much...teleporting might be useless to me."

I may be able to do almost anything by imagining it...but to think that my weak point would be this...

"I never thought that there'd be a magic that requires me to go out..."

In that way, Dianeia is unexpectedly amazing. It seems like she has quite a few places she can teleport to.

"Well, in your case you have Hesty-dono or you can use your golems to move around, so there's no problem. This method allows you to save time and physical effort, but you have other things that can do the same. You're in an enviable position."

Even if you say that...I don't get that feeling.

Anyways, I'd already bought the scroll.

Well, instead of practicing, I'll just use it when I have to.

"—ah, ahh, that's right. Speaking of moving I just remembered. Daichi-dono would you come visit Prussia for a festival?"

"Festival?"

"Yes, it's the hundred-year celebration, it's sure to be quite lively. There should be food stalls and stands... so I just thought that you guys might want to come... of course I would accompany and guide you!"

A festival huh? I don't like mixing with the crowd that much. However, I do enjoy relaxing and fishing in a dragon-boat.

.....but...ok.

If it's just some sightseeing...it might be good.

When I can't stand the crowd anymore, I can just teleport away.

My path of retreat is perfect. All that's left is,

"Sakura would you like to come?"

I asked Sakura as she returned with more tea.

"If Master wants to go, then I will of course accompany you."

Sakura seems like she at least has a little interest.

In that case, it might be fun.

"When is it held?"

"It will occur after two weeks."

"Then I guess I'll show myself a bit when the time comes."

I said, and Dianeia's face suddenly lit up,

"Y-yeah! Then I'll work hard on the preparations! I'll tell you about the rest so please wait a bit!"

She said in excitement and promptly returned to town.

"She looks quite happy."

"I think that she is happy to be going around with Master."

Sakura giggled and said.

I don't really understand it well...but I think I'm looking forward to this a bit.

Chapter 61: Collaboration with the Fire Dragon King

Daytime.

I was making golems as usual, forming the body and face in detail when,

—Boom!—

I heard an explosion coming from Hesty's cabin.

"Huh?"

It was so sudden I didn't even have time to be surprised, I turned quickly to face Hesty's cabin a cloud of smoke rolled out of the doorway.

Then from within the smoke,

"Keho....."

A soot covered Hesty emerged.

".....What happened?"

"n, development, mistake."

"Development?"

"I'm sorry, I got, the cabin, dirty."

"No, that's alright."

It's not like you blew it away.

In fact, I think that it shouldn't break with that level of explosion, it's quite sturdy.

"Your house, has been strengthened by your magic, so it's alright. If it was, a normal house, it might've been, blown to pieces....."

"What kind of dangerous thing have you been developing? What exploded?"

"n, this."

Hesty showed me a cylinder made out of tree wood.

It looked kind of like a wand, but it was a bit too fat.

I wonder what it is, it looks like there's quite a few black magic stones inside of

it.

"This is?"

"It's magic stone propellant. The thing that lets you fly in the sky."

Oh, the reverse-bungee thing we were talking about before.
Looking at it now, it looks like a rocket. So, this exploded?

"I was experimenting, and it happened. I attached, it to my feet, and tried to fly for a bit. But, I made a mistake, in the combination."

"—hey, that's dangerous. Do it outside at least."

Her pure white hair was so dirty that it was now jet black.
I think it'd be better if this was done in an open space.

"n, is that ok? It'll be, a bit messy, you know?"

"It's better than having the inside of the house explode. Also, stop using yourself as an experimental subject."

"But, I'm fine?"

Okokok...I understand that you're quite tough, being a dragon king and all but...

"You might be fine, but seeing someone I know well getting blown up is really bad for my heart."

"....are you, worrying about me?"

"Well...of course I am."

I approached her and looked at her face closely and seriously.
I'm not budging on this one.

When she heard that, Hesty's eyebrows moved as if she was troubled/embarrassed, and her cheeks blushed as she nodded slightly.

"n, I understand. If you say so, I will not use myself, as the subject. I'll use something else."

"Good. Please do."

"Hmm, in that case, what can I send flying.....?"

Oh right, the whole premise of the thing was to make something fly.
Hmm....

There's not a lot around here that could be used.

Of course...it's impossible for me to fly, honestly I don't want to be made the subject of these experiments.

I'm not willing to wish this evil upon the Wolf People either.

Then what should we do...I thought and looked around when,

"Oh"

I saw the golem that I'd been working on.

"Hey Hesty. Could you use the golems as your experimental subjects?"

"I can, I think. But, is it alright, for me to use them?"

"Of course, I welcome anything that makes them stronger. Even more so if you can make them fly! That'd be the best!"

No matter what I say otherwise...Rockets are a man's romance.
I feel like having my golems fly would be the coolest.

".....f-for some reason, you're unusually passionate..."

"Well, since you can fly I don't think you understand. But, flying is a man's romance..." (man's romance=spirit of adventure)

I can make most anything using my imagination, but up until now I have not been able to fly.

I can freely manipulate and extend the trees into any shape I please, so you could say I really have no reason for wanting to fly...but I yearn to freely maneuver about in midair.

"O-ok. Then I'll put these in it...could you, help?"

"Ok, I'll give it my best!"

And so Hesty and I began developing a golem that could fly in the sky.
Well, honestly it was simply adding equipment. It only took a few days to find the optimal design. When I have some free time, it'd be best to test it out.

Chapter 61.5: —Side Shining Head—Prussia Reconstruction Battle and Flight Experiment

Plain to the West of Prussia.

There the bald group of adventurers was fighting against a giant wild boar.

"Hyahha!we shouldn't have come here while we were still recovering ze!"

The shining head members were all cutting at the giant boar, Fafnir, and running around.

Because of that, they were all out of breath while the Fafnir was still full of energy.

"——!!"

The Fafnir continued to rush along at full speed.

It had been cut over and over again and was bleeding but it still wouldn't fall.

"Hyahha. This Fafnir is too big, we can't beat it...!"

"Even if you say that now it's too late! Actually Leader, I know you're putting in effort but be a bit more quiet about it."

A member poked the leader's arm while saying.

"Hyahha, my bones are still stuck together with the recovery potion. Don't poke it."

"It's only sticking together!? You're supposed to rest until it returns to normal right?"

Though a recovery potion will heal you, it won't return your wounds to their original states.

Also your physical strength won't return either.

Originally the Leader should've been resting after getting beat up by the Dungeon Master, but...

"Why did you come!?"

"Hyahha....it couldn't be helped. I saw that such a huge monster came out."

"This is a legitimate emergency quest after all..."

This is a job that concerns monsters that suddenly appeared.

Similar to them, the town was in the midst of being fixed.

People were working diligently to recover from the damage of the dungeon activation.

So, if such a big monster came around, there would be further damage.

"Hyahha...that wouldn't be good."

They took a day to leave the festival. They didn't want this to throw cold water on the mood.

They couldn't let this be, so the shining heads all took up their weapons once more.

The giant Fafnir was still filled with spirit.

It stopped moving and pawed at the ground in preparation to charge.

"Hyahha...he's not a full member and this is tough but....compared to Boss Daichi this is easy ok guys!?"

"Yeah!"

After seeing his fight with the dungeon master, there wasn't a single one of them that hadn't gotten fired up.

They wanted to be strong like that.

Even if they can't match up to him, they want to aim for such strength.

"Hyahha, after that fight we talked instead of drank. We said we would become stronger right!?"

"YEAH....!!"

And so, the shining heads faced the beast without stepping back.

"——!!"

"Let's go!"

The Fafnir started to charge with rage, but the Leader charged forward to face it.

Then at the moment they were about to collide, "Leader! There's another

hiding in it's shadow!"

"What!?"

Something else came charging out from behind the gigantic boar.

This guy was so big that he created a blind spot and didn't see it.

.....is this guy its follower?....

It was already at full speed. If he kept going there'd be a direct collision.

.....this is gonna hurt.

At worst I'll be skewered by the tusks, at best I'll be run over or sent flying.

"Shit.....!!!"

He couldn't do anything even if he tried.

He braced himself for impact and clenched his teeth. At that moment, "Leader above!"

"Huh!?"

The Leader looked above the two fasnirs and saw something huge falling from the sky.

"Uoooooooo!?"

And before the eyes of the Leader,

—BOOOM!—

A violent sound exploded out.

Something crashed violently into the ground making a crater and sent the leader flying from the fallout.

"Hyahha...Owwwwww"

"L-leader are you okay!?"

He was sent flying, but it was much better than getting run over or being skewered.

"H-hya-ha...w-what happened...?"

The Leader raised his head and looked at the cloud of smoke. There he saw something standing up.

It was a single, huge...golem.

"Hmmm...I fell as I was flying...I really haven't gotten the hang of this flying thing..."

It was the man who they set as their goal.

Chapter 62: One More Step Before Flight

I was in my golem in a cloud of smoke tilting my head.

"n~~, I really did it this time..."

It was great that I was able to fly from my house in this golem...but I only flew for a few seconds before I crashed.

I thought it needed more precise control so I sat inside it, but even so I wasn't able to fly well.

For my own protection, I made this golem especially thick and sturdy.

Even though we fell, there was only external damage and I was safe inside it.

So, though it's good that I was able to fall from such a height and be alright...

...I think I crushed something when I fell.

"I heard people's voices...this might be bad."

I muttered as I took a tentative peep at my golem's feet when,

"A-aren't you Big Boss Daichi? Why did you fall from the sky!?"

"Huh? you guys are.....those adventurers right?"

The skinhead guys that I'd met before were all standing around.

"Hyahha!.....I am indebted to you!! You really saved me! I would've been reinjured badly by those guys!"

Then he pointed at the two boars underneath my golem that had been half buried.

After taking the force of that fall they were both completely knocked out.

Actually, I made a big crater in the ground.

It hit them so hard that their bodies were buried halfway into the ground.

".....This body...is pretty heavy."

I made it more and more sturdy as I remodeled it...the result was this heavyweight body.

Maybe that's the reason I couldn't fly well.

The next time I experiment, I should lighten the load.

Either that, or I could increase the number of boosters. Instead of just having them on my legs, I could put them in the back as well.

"Boss?"

"Ah it's nothing. Didn't you guys go back to the Fort City?"

They were adventurers from there so I thought they'd already left. But those guys shook their heads and pointed towards Prussia.

"Hyahha, for now we're working in this city."

"There's a request?"

"Well, there is the fact that they're short of people...but there's good food, drink, and lots of cute girls! Furthermore, there's good quality equipment to be bought. There's lots of reasons to stay."

They said while grinning.
It seems like they quite like this town.

"Hyahha, Boss really saved us. For now we should report the completion of this request, please accept the reward for the quest later!"

"Hm? Quest Reward?"

"Hyahha, for those Fafnir."

Oh these passed out fellas huh?
It was a subjugation quest. Well this is all well and good but,

"All I did was fall from the sky, the reward is yours"

"? But those are guys that you beat Boss?"

"That's just a coincidence. I won't rob you of the reward for your hard work. Just take it with you."

I reactivated the golem and had it stand.
I gave the two boars to the shining head guys and they accepted emotionally.

"Hya, hyahha! Thank you very much! B-but is this really alright?"

"Alright or not, this is normal."

"Th-then we will take it with gratitude...I'd like to repay this debt, before long we will bring you some good sake!"

"Ok, I got it."

"And with that, we'll set off. Hyahha! We're heading back guys!"

"Y-Yeah!"

Leaving behind those parting words, the shining head guys went back to town.

I was left alone gazing at the boosters on my golem's legs.

"Fumu, when I get back I'll add a few more boosters and lighten the weight. Should I remove the moisture...maybe reduce the size..."

For now there's quite a few things I can try.
I can already fly in the air for a few seconds.

....it won't be long before I'm able to fly with the greatest of ease.

I'm looking forward to it.

Chapter 63: Natural Recovery Medicine

(Occasional Side-effects)

Daytime, I went out into the garden because I had detected a living creature, when I looked, "Oi, you alive?"

".....uuu"

Dianeia was collapsed in front of Hesty's cabin.

"Why is she lying here?"

"I don't know, when I came out, she was like this. Did she get, attacked by monsters?"

I wasn't going to do anything today.

I didn't want to get caught up in a monster subjugation.

"I can see, her life force, waning."

"I can see that, but she doesn't have any wounds."

"Dianeia's face was turning blue but I couldn't see any blood anywhere.

"This is probably, overwork. If I do, too much wand making, sometimes I'll, be like this."

"You should rest properly ok? But I see...overwork huh."

She's completely collapsed.

"I-I'm sorry. Once I got close to this house, I relaxed and the exhaustion caught up..."

"Oh you're up?"

However, she didn't get up.

"uuu.....the festival preparations, the town repairs, the magic usage, the physical strain...I exhausted too much....."

It seems like you've been through a lot, but it's troublesome if you stay collapsed in front of Hesty's door.

You should try not to collapse until you get back in your own home.
Falling asleep in the comfort and safety of your own home is much better.

"....."

I didn't get any response.

"Should, she just sleep, here?"

"No, if we leave her, then she'll catch a cold."

I was wondering if I should bring her to my house or put her in Hesty's cabin when, "What if, we give her an, apple?"

I was reminded by Hesty's words.

That's right. My apples have a recovery ability.

"That's right, I gave you an apple before and you were fine after eating it.
Even if I gave another it should be fine."

"n"

The ones I pluck straight off the tree are too dangerous, but the ones I have in storage should be fine. So, I went to get one, cut it up, and presented it to Dianeia.

"Here, eat."

"uuuu....."

Ahh, this isn't going anywhere.

It doesn't even look like she has the energy to open her mouth to chew it.

"You really, overdid it didn't, you?"

"Yeah, it looks like she can't eat it like this...oh right. I should make it easier. — Golem!"

I called for a golem and put the apple in its hand.

One wasn't enough so I grabbed about twenty more and put those in its hand as well, then "Crush and squeezed it."

I had it squeeze the fruit juice into a wooden container.

The twenty apples' juices filled up the container.

"Quite a, forceful, way of making, juice."

"It's all the same as long as the juice comes out."

I thought of making a press or mixer for this...but I felt that it wasn't worth it for a one-time thing.

"Here, you can drink it like this right?"

I brought the cup to Dianeia's mouth and she started drinking.
Fumu, I finally got her to have some, one way or another.
She should recover a bit now. or so I thought when, "Haa!? What is this!?"
"Oh, you got lively all of a sudden."

Dianeia suddenly jumped up and grabbed me.

"Hm? What's wrong?"
"N-nothing, it's...my body is really hot Daichi-dono! That wasn't an aphrodisiac was it!? If it was then I'd be glad to accept anytime!!"
"Wait a sec. Calm yourself."

She had grabbed me with power I wouldn't expect from such thin arms.



Her eyes looked ecstatic and bloodshot, what happened?

"Over, recovered?"

"Something like that I think."

Somehow it gives off the impression of someone who had just drunk a lot of energy drinks at the same time.

Did my apples have such an effect?

"You put, twenty of them, in it."

"Yeah, put in too many...."

She seems to have been energized too much.

"D-Daichi-dono! I'll undress and prepare to receive you, please wait a moment!!"

"Ahh.....umm, Dianeia"

"W-what!?"

"Calm down for a second. You're a princess aren't you?"

"Muguu!?"

It seemed like she might pounce on me at any moment so I had her tied up with a rope made out of my trees.

"Uo~ Uo~ Let me go~"

It wasn't too tight, but I don't think she'll be able to move for the time being. There wouldn't be an accident due to this occurrence. Even though she's like this, she's a Princess. Her virtue should be quite important. I can't just do this on a whim.

"Fumu, man, she became way too energetic."

"You should, dilute it, maybe?"

I had not expected Dianeia to become like this. I thought it'd be fine for those with a lot of magic to eat these apples.

"When Hesty ate the apple then, did you become like this?"

"Well, I was very tired, and I needed a lot of magic, recovery, but I might have, become like this, a bit. I am, a woman."

Seriously?

"Did I start growing vitality(energy) medicine without knowing it...?"

It seems like I made light of my apples' effects.

"Well, if you're not totally exhausted, you won't be like this, this is from too much. Normally, I'd think of it as, a nutritional supplement."

Hesty said while looking at the apples.

Ummm, I think I'll be careful from now on.

When I have people try it, I'll use less or dilute it.

Chapter 64: Going to the Town for the First Time in a While (Length of visit as you'd expect)

Late at night, Dianeia had finally calmed down. Her face was red as she sat on the ground in seiza (kneeling with knees bent and feet under your butt) "I'm sorry. I was confused.....please forget it." "Don't worry about it. I won't forget it though." "Uaaaa....."

She should've been calmed down by now, but she was banging her head against the tree that had tied her up now. It seems like she's still emotionally unstable.

"What are you so embarrassed about? It's fine isn't it? Just think of it like a drunken frenzy. I don't mind."

"You might not care but I do...!! Such drunken foolishness in front of you....."

I feel like she'd shown me quite a few foolish actions, and they should've been more embarrassing than this. Like leaking...and leaking...and leaking...and etc...

"Uu, a woman's shame and a mage's shame as a warrior are two different categories....."

"Oh, I see. So, is your body alright?"

"Y-yes, I was collapsing from exhaustion, but I no longer feel a single bit of it. Thank you Daichi-dono."

Certainly she's blushing, but her complexion is much better. Her legs and back are sturdy and straight. She seems to have recovered.

"But honestly, Daichi-dono is drinking such delicious apple juice every day?" "Eh.....no, this is the first time."

I've had some when I caught a cold or was exhausted from working, but it was

the first time I'd made any since I came to this world.

"That's.....a shame. Leaving aside its amazing effects, it's so delicious and strong."

"It was strong?"

It was made from apples that I had harvested much earlier...did that change the taste?

I should probably try it out.

"Oh, that's right Daichi-dono. I just remembered something good."

"Hm? Something good?"

"Yeah, didn't you tell me that you were troubled by the amount of apples you were growing?"

Hmm, I feel like I did say something to that effect. My apples are filled with magic and they take an extremely long time to rot...actually I don't think a single one of them has rotted yet, I need a way to dispose of them.

"What would you think of selling them in the city? Of course not as the original product, but as juice. I'm sure there'll be quite a few strong people coming into the town for the festival."

"No, no matter how you put it this seems dangerous."

Do you even remember how you were acting a little while ago?
This might cause some sort of weird rebellion in town.

"No, I feel that as long as you only use a single fruit and water it down, it should be fine. For a person with an ordinary amount of magic that should be fine."

"Really?"

"Yes, with such a strong apple flavor even watering it down 10 to 20 times wouldn't harm the flavor too much. It would recover people's energy so I think it'd be good!"

Dianeia's eyes were glittering with commercial spirit or something.

"Hmmm...trade huh"

"If it's you Daichi-dono, you could make a simple shop and have a golem work there easily. You'd earn a periodic income so I think it's a good idea."

Periodic income huh? My Vault Room is already filled up...but I can't say it's a terrible idea.

There's other places I can stuff the money if I need to.

It wouldn't take me much effort to have the golems squeeze lots of apples and dilute them with water.

If I set them for independent activity I won't even have to do anything. All that's left is the store itself but...

"That's right, I own property in town right?"

"Yes! It's unused right now, so why don't you use it? By the time the festival comes around, you can have a shop there."

I see. Well it might be good to have a place in town where we can stay.

.....I basically stay at home, but if Hesty or Sakura went in to town they would have a place to stay.

I won't be going very much. I enjoy fishing, digging my onsen, and customizing my golems more than going into town.

Even so, I can make a holiday house in town while having it also be a store which can dispose of my extra apples. I think this might be quite useful.

"Un, it isn't bad at all. Ok Dianeia. Can I leave the teleportation to you?"

"N-now? It's already night you know?"

Well it is around that time. If I go to town now it'll be dark and no one will be around, it's perfect.

"I want to strike while the iron's hot. I want to get to making it quickly."

"I-I Understand!"

And so I was taken to my land by Dianeia.

The result was that my store/holiday house was made that night.

This is how I ended up with the occupation of store owner.

Though...it was only manned by golems, open hours are on a whim, and I only sell apple juice.

Chapter 65: Staying Out All Night and Coming Home in the Morning and the Morning Meeting

As I was finishing up my new store and thinking about heading home, the morning sun started to climb above the horizon.

"Crap...! I was fussing over how it looked and it's already morning!"

I had finished counter-type store (where there's one counter with the goods behind it).

Rather than a shop, it was more like a cabin, based on the amount of space used for the counter. There was much more living space than business space. But that's fine, I was only going to sell one product here so it's fine. If I wanted to expand and remodel I could but the counter space would basically only be used by golems.

"Yeah, but it really became a nice-looking store! How should I put it, the detailed design looks cool!"

"Hey...Dianeia. I'm thankful that you accompanied me through the night...but didn't you have to go back to the castle?"

She helped me in various ways with her teleportation. But, I thought she was busy?

"Please don't mind it. I told them already because I wanted to be with you until you left."

She's really quite the conscientious girl, she worked herself almost to collapse.

"Keep it all in moderation."

"Ok. But still, I was so tired and I helped you out all night, but I'm still energetic...that juice is amazing."

She said while looking at the stock of apples and the golem with glittering eyes.

I feel like it might've been a bad idea to give her that stuff.

"....I'm just letting you know, I'm not letting you have any more today ok?"
"Eh!? B-but wouldn't just one more mouthful be alright?"

This witch princess' eyes look kind of dangerous.
I was thinking that such a dependence on this juice would be dangerous and was about to rethink this entire operation when,

"Hyahha? Could this be Big Boss Daichi?"

I turned to look and saw the morning sun shining off the heads of the bald adventurers.

"Oh, it's the adventurer group's leader?"
"Hyahha...stop calling me Leader. I'd like you to call me by my name, Ash." (TN: finally a proper name for him.)

This baldy was called Ash?
I'd seen this guy many times before, but this was the first time I'd heard his name.

"Hyahha. Anyways, it's pretty rare to see Boss in town. Actually, wasn't this land an open lot yesterday?"

"Yeah, this was my land and I wanted to make a shop on it."

"Hyahha, you made an entire shop in one night!?"

"Holy crap, this guy's definitely on a different scale from us....."

The shining head guys stared at the shop in dumb amazement.
It was only a single cabin tall though...

"No Daichi-dono. Normally you can't build this in a night you know? Though your home has expanded before I even noticed."

I guess you're right. If I touch Sakura I can usually expand my home that way, the ease of this was making me underestimate the difficulties of construction.

"Well setting that aside, what are you guys doing Ash? It's early."
"Hyahha. We are patrolling as usual."

"Patrolling?"

"Looking for a good monster to hunt for cash."

I see. I didn't know about the adventurer's lives...a good monster huh?

"Well, the Shining Head Group is first class among adventurers. They've given a lot of care to our city."

"Ohh, is that so?"

They look like they'd be troublemakers...I guess appearances are deceiving.

"Hyahha, afterwards if we're in good shape I was thinking of visiting the Combat Rabbits' shop. It's pretty empty around morning."

"Mm, well it's good that you're so energetic so early in the morning."

"Well, recently Leader's been exhausted at night and in the morning he's barely able to get up."

"Hyahha, you don't need to say that much you little...!"

Ash said in a panic and grabbed that guy by the scruff of his neck.

"Huh, are you really that tired?"

That reminds me of how beaten up he got by that Fafnir incident.

"It's because he's pushing himself without recovering."

"That's right. His sexual desires are overriding his need for rest and recovery. So the leader goes to those shops while in this condition...."

"Hya— Hyahha! It can't be helped!"

Somehow, they seem lively. But still...

I have a model case on my hands so let's take this opportunity.

"Well this is the opening of my shop. Why don't you have a cup?"

I took the wooden cups full of apple juice and handed it to them.

"Hyahha? This is.....apple juice?"

"Yeah, I think it tastes good...but just in case. I want to test it before it goes on sale....oh you don't need to pay, just give me your opinions."

They were taking their wallets out of their bags when I stopped them, I waited for their opinions.

Ash and the rest checked the contents of their cups, leaned back, and drained

them in one gulp. Then,

"Uoooooooo!? What's this!?"

Ash's head immediately flushed bright red.

All the members behind him had their hair stand on end and seemed to be almost shining.

"This is amazing. This feeling! It's delicious of course, but my power is overflowing!"

"YEAH, my exhaustion's blown away Leader!!"

"This is awesome! It's an amazing body enhancement drink Boss!"

"S-so it seems....."

Somehow, they seem as if they're floating...both physically and mentally.

"Hyahha, if we have this much power we can go anywhere! Right you guys!?"

"YEAH~"

"So we'll be off Boss!"

"Uh...Ummm...be careful."

YOSHAAA, they yelled and the shining head group dashed out of town. It's nice that they've become more energetic but,

"As I thought...I shouldn't sell this."

"W-well, you might need to...water it down a bit more."

"Something else is bothering me...if they're like this, then won't they stir up some trouble at the rabbits' shop?"

"U-uhh, wouldn't that be good in its own way?"

For the time being, this is how I'll use up the extra apples. Though I definitely need to think more about how much to dilute it by.

That's what I thought as I saw the Shining Heads disappear from the town in a huge cloud of dust.

Chapter 66: Tidying Up Your Home

After coming home from making the shop and falling fast asleep, I took apples out of the storehouse and took them to the shop.

There would be a festival in a few days so I wanted to stockpile some apple juice.

I had Sakura and the golems help and made what I thought would be a suitable amount when, "I never thought about it but...how many levels are taken up by apples..."

"Th-there's quite a few aren't there."

I never imagined that my house would be filled with 5 stories worth of apples. I did notice that apples fell out of my windows every now and then though.

The golems had harvested way too many.

"Having the golems autonomously gather them was a mistake huh..."

"It's good that they won't rot, but it's too much for even preserved foods..."

I have plenty of space so there's no need to worry...

However, seeing such an amount gave me a light shock.

"I wonder...I feel like I'm wasting the space of Sakura and my home..."

"No no, being a storage area is also one of the duties of a house, so it's perfectly alright."

Including the underground area we had several tens of rooms so I was glad to hear her reassurance...but I feel like it was about time to properly give this house shape.

"I was thinking of having a castle shaped portion on/under the ground...then having a tall tower rise into the sky."

"Wow, that's sounds pretty good."

Sakura said seeming happy, but unfortunately I don't think something like that was possible yet.

"I guess my architectural abilities and building power just isn't enough yet. I can't seem to make the proper castle shape....."

"W-well...it's that. It'll be just like with the golems, you'll eventually get the hang of it."

Certainly, I need more experience in this field. I was able to imagine what I wanted mostly...all that was left was making it a reality. Recently I was busy with my golems, garden, and basement changes so I didn't have time to turn my attention to my house.

"I think I'll start again, it'd be good if I could do this."

"It's most important that Master makes it as he likes. When the time comes to decide the shape, please allow me to help."

"Ok, I'll be counting on you at that time."

But my first priority is to take care of this apple paradise I have going on. I do think that if I turn it into juice it'll get used up fast enough though..

I don't know how it'll affect the townspeople so I'll keep it in moderation. I thought and picked up the case of apples.

"Master. Something is falling from high altitude. What shall we do?"

"High altitude?"

I looked and saw a black spot quickly falling to the ground.

"Fumu....well it's dangerous so let's send it away.—Grow and Extend—"

I extended several trees up into the sky.

I arranged them to grow into a shield shape and then, "——"

I caught the thing that had been falling with a great grinding sound.

"As expected of Master. The defenses were fast."

"It was Sakura who noticed though....hmm I wonder what this is."

Looking at it from below it looked quite large.

For now I'll lower the trees and bring it down to the garden.

"A rock huh?"

It was a smooth grey rock about 3 meters in diameter.

It had a strange geometric pattern on its surface.

"Hmm, I wonder. Even I have little knowledge about something like this."
"It seems almost metallic, why did something like this fall from the sky?"

Was this some dragon's favorite shiny thing? Did it drop it by accident? I looked up at the sky but didn't see any dragons.

"Does it have some dangerous feeling to it?"
"No, nothing really. It seems like a husk...or like an inorganic substance. I don't think it's dangerous."

Fumu fumu, it's not dangerous huh?

"Oh wait, it might be...that thing that fell from the sky that destroyed the rabbits' store?"

"That's a possibility."

"What? They still haven't caught the one who's been doing this?"

I should ask Dianeia about this.
It would've taken just a bit more and it would've harmed my apple orchard.

"That's right, when you go to take the apples why don't you ask?"
".....Yeah...but then I'd have to go out in the town when it's busy."

There'll be a lot of people and I can't really work up the motivation to do this. I feel like it'll be very lively...too lively, it'll be hard to get around.

"Should we wait till night?"
"Hmmm... go to the store at night and if I can catch Dianeia then talk to her...or something like that?"

There hasn't been any real harm so far.
When I have more free time I'll speak to her.

"Alright, then first we need to carry these out!"
"Yep, let's take it slow."

And so we left the fallen object alone for now and continued our transport operation.

Chapter 67: Dragon King of the Night

Around midnight I headed into town on Hesty's back. Since there was barely any people out and about there wasn't much ruckus when we touched down.

"I'm uh...kinda sorry about using you as transportation."
"There's, no problem. This kind of rehabilitation as a dragon is important."

Hesty had returned to her human appearance and carried the big box of apples into the store.

"That's right, has your body healed up alright?"

I was the one who beat her...and let her deal with the monsters...but I'm a bit worried because of how much I saw her sleeping.

"n, I'm all, better. I can fight, with my full, power you know?"
"No, you don't have to. In fact I don't think you'll have the opportunity either."

If she fought with all her strength the fight location would be reduced to ash.

"n~, just in case, I'll save my strength."
"Please do so."

If there came a time to use it then it'll be fine.
But I really hope we won't need to.

"...still Hesty's coating makes moving around easy."
"Is that so?"

When I was doing my work in town I coincidentally met some townspeople and they were terrified.
So this time the magic suppressing coating was put on both of us.

"Well, there are people who'd, jump out of bed, if they felt, strong magic. So this doesn't happen, coating is important. I also think this is true so I, cover myself."

Hesty is really a worrier.
But thanks to that there's no trouble when we go into town, so it's a good thing.
But even this girl has a problem she can't possibly avoid...

"I saw that white appearance and came! It's Aneue-sama right~~!!!"
"Something, troublesome, has come."

From within the darkness Anne came running towards us carrying a large bag and drooling.

"...it's scary, so can I fire, a full power flame, at it?"
"We're in town so you can't."

Though I think it's scary too. Anne is beautiful but this facial expression makes her seem like a monster.

"ehehe.....Aneue-sama it's been so long~~~"

Hesty had completely given up on avoiding the hug and continued to carry the apples with dead eyes while ignoring her.

"Ahh, you're so cold Aneue-sama! But that...neglect play is also.....good...!!!"
"Oi Hey Anne. Keep it down it's late at night."
"Ah...th-that's right Daichi-sama. I just couldn't hold in my excitement.....eh what? Somehow I smell the scent of Aneue-sama's magic on you....."

Anne said while holding Hesty and slowly approached me.

".....is there a smell to magic?"
"No it's tasteless and odorless. However, Aneue-sama's magic has a certain sensation to it."
"Hm, I don't get it, but your eyes are scary so keep your distance."

Her face was getting way too close so I pushed it away with my hand.

"Ahh, your hand also smells like Aneue-sama——this is her magic coating right?"

"If you know that then.....hey stop licking my hand!"

This has definitely gotten into a dangerously weird place, I grabbed Hesty and took my distance.

"Ahhh, you're so terrible~"

"What's terrible is your character!"

"Uu....thank you...."

Hesty seemed exhausted.

"Well, my exhaustion from the all-nighter has been blown away by Aneue-sama, I'm happy."

"All-nighter?...oh that's right you came from the shadows..."

Looking more closely now I could see the signs of fatigue on Anne's face quite clearly.

"Well, the festival is only a few days away so I got fired up and stayed awake for three days making new items to sell."

"Hmm, I understand, the feeling. It's a certain, feeling, when you're making, items, that you don't feel sleepy."

Hesty and Anne nodded together in agreement.

Why did they hit it off on that point alone? Is it because they're dragon kings?

"So, what are you selling in this store Daichi-sama?"

"Uh, well, apple juice. From the trees in my garden."

"If you gave that to regular people would they still be alright? I feel like they're filled with magic...."

"I'm watering it down so it should be fine. I tried it on Hesty and some adventurers....here try some."

It was fine when Dianeia and Sakura had some so I gave it to Anne. She looked at it for a bit and tasted it.

"I see....it's like a...hangover and recovery potion. If it's like this then it should be fine."

She said with a normal face.

Good it looks like the super energy (aphrodisiac) effect went away. Since Anne didn't attack Hesty that effect should've disappeared.

"....Hm? You're looking at me strangely, was there something?"

"Nope, nothing...I'm glad."

"?"

"Well, leave that aside Anne. What's in the big bag?"

I had been curious about the big bag on her back for a while now.

"Oh, this? It's medicines and items that I need to deliver to Dianeia-sama"

"Are you heading to the castle now?"

"Yes....Well, I was going to wait at the entrance. It's not easy to enter the castle at night so I was just going to have Dianeia-sama teleport it."

Fumu, I see, this is convenient.

"Mm then can I come with?"

"Yes, I don't mind, but did you have something you needed?"

"There's just something I'd like to ask"

"I understand. Then let us go together.....Aneue-sama will....?"

"I'm, not going."

Anne's collapsed to her knees in disappointment and I turned to Hesty.

"I'll, wait here. If you need me, call."

"Ok, then let's go Anne"

"Uu, Aneue-sama....let me, hug you again....."

And so I headed with Anne to the castle.

Chapter 68: Nighttime Clandestine Meeting

That night as the young knights in the Castle of Prussia were about to sleep...

「Ahh...what an easy day...」

It'd already been a while since the dungeon master's attack.

Recently their job was to go to training, patrol the castle, and patrol the town...then that was it.

The rest of the time was devoted to drinking with their pals.

「Yeah, I'm grateful that our duties ended peacefully today.」

「I'm glad that I haven't had to use my battle equipment for a couple days. It'd be great if these peaceful days would continue...so we can take our time drinking till late at night and rest.」

「Haha, no doubt. Well then, let's call it a day here.」

The young knights relaxed and were about to lie down in their beds when at that moment...

「——!？」

Everyone felt a freezing chill run down their spine as a monumental pressure pressed down upon them.

「Wh-what!？」

Some fell off their beds and one froze stiff as if tied down.

「I-I can't....m-move...wh-what is this...?」

「Is this.....a wave....of magic...?」

As the young knights' breaths caught in their throat at that thought, they heard the roar of the senior knight's voice from outside their room.

「ALL TROOPS! EQUIP YOURSELVES! READY YOURSELVES!」

After hearing the roared orders from their senpai, the young knights'

breathing started once more in surprise.

They then began equipping themselves in a hurry.

「Ummmm, where was my equipment?」

「Wait! First turn on the light!」

Everything was going helter-skelter in the dark room as they tried to equip themselves.

「I'm coming in!」

A voice said as it opened the door. Standing there was their senior knight.

「Five of you huh. You're taking your sweet time aren't you. Or maybe you can't stand the magic and you can't move?」

「U-uummmm.....yes.」

They nodded while feeling embarrassed.

「U-umm what's going on!?!」

「n, it's a surprise readiness drill...is it your first?」

The young knights exchanged glances and nodded.

They were newbies who had only started here 2 months ago.

「They do this sometimes. It may be peaceful now, but monsters can always come to attack from the magic forest or the Fort City's dungeon. You can't let your guard down, it seems to be the Knight Captain's policy.」

「I-is that so? Normally you'd never feel such overwhelming and scary magic power right?」

「Well...normally even with Princess's huge magic power being fully emitted we'd still be able to stand up....but today's is abnormally powerful so I think this is special.」

There was cold sweat on the senior knight's face.

His face was also somewhat pale.

「I felt fear when the dragon king came...but this is honestly above that. Even I almost let a little leak out. Are you guys alright?」

「U-uhmmm...probably.....」

Several of them looked suspicious...but about half of them seemed to have withstood it.

「Well...hmm? I guess this kind of thing would happen normally if you drink enough alcohol... if you take care of it quickly it should be fine.」

「Uh...ok!」

「Ok, then continue the drill. We're patrolling the castle!」

「Roger!」

And so the knights began to mill around the castle.

「....Um there seems to be a commotion going on in the castle...is everything alright?」

I was standing next to the castle with Dianeia and for some reason I heard a big commotion.

It was loud enough that I could hear it almost clearly from the outside.

「Haha, don't mind it.」

Dianeia said while carelessly laughing.

「The knights have just sensed your magic power and are now entering a state of alert.」

「Umm is that ok?」

I'm not disturbing their rest am I?

「No, I was planning on this beforehand. I was going to have Anne-dono release some of her magic power.」

「Yes, sometimes you need a sense of danger so I was going to cooperate.」

「Oh, so I came and it was convenient...I see.」

It was a small silver lining. But I think that without Hesty's coating they would all wake up leaking...

「Is it really okay for me to come into town?」

「N, well most people can't really sense magic so it's alright. Remember you came into town the other day without coating and you were fine, right?」

Huh...I guess she's right. I didn't have coating at that time.

「As long as they aren't directly meeting you they should basically be alright, so please come to town more often!」

「Ahh, well...sometimes.」

I'm a guy who prefers staying at home...that's basically my nature.

「So, you needed to give stuff to Dianeia, right Anne?」

「Uh, yes. That's right. Here's the requested medicine and books.」

「Oh, I'll read them. You have my thanks.」

Books? Did she have something she wanted to look up?

「It's just a bit of research. I want to become even a little stronger as a mage, so I thought I'd read up on dragon's knowledge.」

「You're so serious.」

「That's my only redeeming feature. Oh, why'd you come meet me Daichi-dono? I-it couldn't be for yobai (sneaking into a woman's room at night for sexual relations)...」

「No, I just had something I wanted to ask.」

「Oh...I see...」

She seems very disappointed...but if I was coming for that I wouldn't bring Anne with me.

「W-well, this isn't any place to talk, let's move to a nicer place for a chat. Is there anywhere that you two would like to go?」

「I don't particularly care. My business here is mostly complete, I think that it would be fine if it was a place that Daichi-sama chose.」

A place that I find comfortable to chat in...it's mostly restricted to my house... or my shop.

「Well, if it's for talking then the living space in my shop should be good.」

Hesty's there too and she should hear this talk as well.

That made coming here an exercise in fruitlessness...but I'll just think of it as a nice walk.

「Ah, is that so? Actually I also wanted to see the inside of Daichi-sama's merchant home!」

「Well then Daichi-dono. I'll be intruding for a bit. Should we teleport?」

「Yeah, I'll leave it to you.」

And so Dianeia teleported us once again back to my store.

Chapter 69: Spring of Knowledge

After I teleported to the store, I adjusted the cane sitting on the chair and went out to meet Hesty.

「Nn, Welcome home. It kind of feels like, the number of people are increasing」

「Yo, I had something I wanted to discuss with you」

Because the living area in the store was created to be spacious, even with the four of us inside we still had enough room.

「Well, please take a seat. I don't have any tea though.....」

All I've got are apples.

I was thinking of making the golems create the juice, but should I really do that?

「You said that you, had something to discuss right? In that case, I will try making it」

Hesty replied to me, while facing towards the kitchen area filled with apple based ingredients.

「Oh, thank you. I'll count on you」

「Mn, count on me」

I entrusted the preparation of the tea to Hesty and I sat down at the table with Dianeia and Anne.

「Alright then, now that we're in a calmer place I want to ask you guys something, do you guys know anything about the falling stones around the rabbits' store?」

「Mu? Are you perhaps referring stones that have been falling around their shop?」

「Ahh, to tell you the truth, those type of stones started to drop around my house as well」

「W-what did you say!?!」

After I said this, Dianeia became shocked and stood up.
She leaned forward and stared at me intensely.

「A-are you alright? Daichi-dono?! Are you perhaps injured anywhere.....?」
「Nope, I'm completely fine」
「What about the impact it has had on your home.....?」
「There weren't that many...」

If there was a lot of them it'd only increase the number of large rocks that were buried underneath my garden.
Even if they were to become a hindrance, I can just destroy them easily, it's no big deal.

「I-is that so? I'm glad then.....」
「But, why are you acting so surprised?」

After I asked, Dianeia fumbled around in her breast pocket and pulled out a single stone.
I've seen this the other day, it was the stone with the strange patterns across it.

「.....Umm, could these possibly be the stones that have been dropping around? 」
「Ah, that's right. This is the one」
「If that is true..... Then, indeed I am surprised. This object is very hard」
「When you say hard...you mean it's more solid than a normal rock?」

Indeed, when I felt it for myself I understood that it was quite tough like a certain type of metal but...

「Yes, even if I used my full strength flame type magic, I wouldn't be able to melt it, also when the fragment of this stone was obtained from the rabbit's shop there was at least 20 wizards. ——And when they tried to slice this fragment with wind magic, it boasted a toughness that could rival a castles walls. Although this type of stone has been falling down from the skies..... It doesn't seem to have any effect you」

Ohh, I really didn't think that it was all that tough though.

「Using the trees as shield it was able to catch the falling stones quite easily」
「.....Your house, and your personal defensive capabilities, are truly beyond the

norm」

Well after all, this house was forged to withstand Hesty's Dragon Form attacks and or a Servant Demon's fireballs.

As long as I can see it coming when it falls down from the sky, I can even play around with it, stopping it is of course an easy feat.

「That is really amazing. I.....I really admire you.....」

Dianeia looks at me with sparkling eyes as if she was really excited.
I didn't really plan for this to happen though.
At any rate...

「What exactly is this stone? Neither me or Sakura knew what it was, isn't it just some normal stone?」

After asking her this, Dianeia looked towards the stone with a complicated expression.

「...When I investigated it, I found that it was similar in structure to a dragon's scale. My deduction is that it may perhaps be related to the dragons」

「Saying that this is your deduction, does this mean that you also don't really know what it is?」

「Even when we investigated using magic, it was difficult to find anything that matched it. The research group has said that they will look into further in their records but...」

I see. It seems that Dianeia also doesn't know.
Then it will be necessary for me to consult another person who may know.
If she says that it may have a relation with the dragons, then I just need to ask the dragons.

「Anne, do you know anything about this stone?」

「No, this is the first time I've seen it as well. Even in the Fort City, I have never seen such a thing」

Anne also doesn't know.
Uumu, in this case, I wonder what it is...

「Mn? Isn't that, a fragment of the scale of the Star Dragon King? You're holding, something quite rare, aren't you?」

「Eh.....?」

Hesty-sensei who toddled her way out of the kitchen, just blurted out the correct answer in one go!

Chapter 70: Sharing Knowledge before the Festival

Hesty's small voice echoed in the silent room.

「Eh? Did I say something strange?」

「No, it's not that it's strange, in fact I'm glad that you said it」

Rather, I should have just asked Hesty to begin with.

Even just taking a glance at the stone she was able to recognize it.

「Oh, Hesty-dono do you know what this is?」

「Mn, The Star Dragon King, is the same as me, a flying type Dragon King. I know of, it's existence. It's the manager of a, sky dungeon」

I see, so it was a Dragon King's scale...

Information that I wasn't aware of continued to flow out steadily.

「Ah.....What are those guys in my research team doing.....」

Dianeia was acting all depressed by herself.

「Well, Un, thank you for the hard work」

Pom pon, I tapped her shoulder.

「It's natural for you not to know. It's been at least 130 years since it last flew around these parts. If you continue searching the documents, I'm sure your team will be able to find something on it. Therefore, please don't feel too depressed over it」

「U, Umu....」

Hesty, nice follow!

「I see, so Star Dragon King-sama is an existence that has already lived before I was even born. 」

Anne has never met him either?

Then I guess it makes sense for her not to know about it.

「So what kind of fellow is he? this Star Dragon King」
「How should I say it, he's got a very, big body and is a very gentle soul」
「I see that makes sense」

The scale that dropped was really large so the main body would be even bigger.

「I think that, it is at least ten times the size of my current dragon form. 」
「Ten times or more.....? Doesn't that mean he's at least 300 meters tall?」

Did that kind of thing really fly across the skies?
I didn't notice it at all.

「Mn, even if it is the sky, it is extremely high up. Floating around way beyond the clouds, so it's natural that we don't even notice it」
「Haa, did the scale really drop from such a high place?」
「Even.....if it manages to create a crater on the ground, it wouldn't be strange. Although Daichi-dono who is able to defend against it without any difficulty is the weird one」

Do you have go to that extent?
Well, I guess to them it's like a meteorite falling.

「But why are the scales falling down in the first place?」
「Perhaps it's shedding or something?」
「Eh? Hesty do dragon's even shed off their scales?」
「When we take our humans forms, we don't. But in our dragon forms, sometimes we, do」
「When I was in a dragon's body I was also shedding from time to time~」

Anne earnestly spoke out with nostalgia.
Is it a normal thing among these girls?
Well, I guess that's also fine though.

「Who would have thought that a dragon shedding would invite such a state of affairs」
「Yeah, even buildings can be broken down by the waste material, it's no joking matter..... Just before our festival we actually ran into a problem like this....! I need to think of countermeasures....!!」

Dianeia was at wits end as she worriedly thought for a solution.
It seems that every day is very difficult for her, this Princess Witch.

「As long as I adjust my sleeping schedule, I think I should be able to make it in time..... For the time being I have to return and hold an emergency meeting.

——Thank you, Hesty-dono! And also Daichi-dono! You've saved me by providing this information」

「I haven't really done anything though」

Rather I was the one being taught, I was just sitting on the side....

「Then although it may be selfish of me to say this, but I would like to be excused and leave this area at once. I need to hurry and tell this information to the Leader of the Knights」

「Ou, do your best~」

「Thank you! Then, I will see you next time!」

Saying this Dianeia flew out of the shop.

「As usual she seems really busy doesn't she, that Dianeia」

「Well, she is one of the important people of this town after all」

Anne was the one who talked.

「Mn, I've just made the juice, but now we're down one person....」

Hesty was carrying four cups.

「If there is still one remaining, shall I drink it myself? In any case, here you go」

「Ou, thanks」

I received the cup from Hesty.

Because it was freshly made, it smelled really good.

「Nn then, I'm digging in~」

I drank the contents of the cup. And when I did.

——Jarii!

There was this really strange texture.

Or more like, is this even juice?!

It feels like I'm just slurping on a raw apple, it's like one of those liquid food diets.

「.....Hesty. How did you make this? Did you put something weird in it?」

「I only used, apples?」

「But, I feel like there are these really tough bits」

「I just fully crushed it using my magic? So the wick and the seed may be a little hard」

「Ahh, I see.....」

Normally you would remove the bitter seeds and the core of the apple, wouldn't you? But there doesn't seem to be such a common sense around here. Hesty was just gulping it down quite easily.

I quietly asked Anne who was sitting next to me.

「.....Anne, by any chance, is Hesty bad at cooking?」

「Eh, ummm, Aneue-sama is very indifferent when it comes to food? Or is it better to say that she will eat anything.....? There was even this one time where she eat raw materials, or even eating grass.....」¹

I completely understand now.

That reminds me, the first time I met her, her stomach was rumbling, but her expression was completely deadpan.

She had such an abundance of knowledge in her mind, but she's inattentive when it comes to things like this huh.

「Hesty, from now on when you cook something in the future, do you mind if you give me a call?」

「? ——Mn, I understand. I don't really know why, but if you say so, I will do it」

For the time being, I'm glad I was able to get to know Hesty a little better. Also, it's probably better if I don't request her help in watching out for the shop, right?

Chapter 71: Returning Home in the Morning

By the time I'd finished talking with Dianeia, Anne left, and I'd finished stocking the shop, it was already late at night.

Actually, it was practically dawn.

Hesty's head was drooping as she started to nod off, so I thought I should hurry and close up shop so we could leave.

I left the store so that I could close the counter space.

「Ah, Good Evening Boss!」

「Yo!」

I happened across Ash and the shining head guys.

We were in a place that was barely lit by lanterns and moonlight, but I was able to see the shine from Ash's head.

「Oh, Good Evening. You just came back?」

「Yeah! We hunted some monsters and hurried back for some sake, you want some?」

He said and showed the bag full of coins to me.

Sake huh? Well, I might have accepted the offer normally but...

「It's already late tonight, I'm going home. Sorry.」

「No no, don't worry about it. Let us treat you next time.」

「Yeah, I'll take you up on that.」

They said and we said goodbye, but then I saw something strange on the back of Ash's neck.

「Hey, Ash...there's something on your neck.」

「Huh...?」

Looking at it more closely, it seemed like a lightly colored slime thing...it had a magic stone in the middle of it.

「What is this? Is it alive?」

「Ohh, it was dark so we couldn't see it. It's a parasitic magic stone slime.」

Ash tilted his head to the side as he said that and poked the slime with his finger.

「Parasitic...isn't that bad?」

「This thing is hardy, but it's not strong. Hey, pull it off.」

「Roger!」

One of the shining head members stepped forward and cut the slime with a knife.

「Well, it's like that. It's weak to stabbing attacks. Even though I say its parasitic, it'd have to be attached for a year or more before it started to suck out any nutrients.」

「Huh...」

It seems like an awfully easygoing monster.

「It lives for about a year after that and collapses. Oh, it'll also die if it enters the bath. So, it's not really that scary. Though sometimes it'll hijack an animal and become aggressive.」

I see, there's such a screwball monster out there huh?

「I wonder if these things were stuck to the fafnirs that've turned up.」

「That's possible. This slime isn't particularly rare, it's drawn by strong magic or vital energy. I think that you should've seen them before, right Boss?」

Hmm...have I? In the past there was a huge slime near my area...was that it? It was completely annihilated by the golem trap though.

「I think a big one came by, but I crushed it without realizing what it was.....」
「Hahaha, that's just like Boss!」

Ash laughed...but his face turned serious shortly afterwards.

「...there are ones that suck power out of a magic stone and become big... even we have to be careful of them when they're like that. Just hearing you talk about it like this Boss...it's amazing.」

「It's not that praiseworthy.....but I'm glad you told me this. More knowledge is better than less.」

Especially in my case where I defeat them without even really realizing it.

「Haha, well we're pretty knowledgeable about monsters that might appear around dungeons, if you're ever confused just ask us. If it's for your sake Boss we'll work ourselves to the bone!」

Ash said, then laughed as they departed.

「Fumu....monster knowledge huh? Learning about that might be interesting.」

When I have free time it might be good to ask Hesty and Ash about this.
I thought while I closed up the shop. Then when I finished,

「Ku~.....」

「Ahah, she fell...」

Hesty had completely fallen asleep on the floor. I didn't want to wake her.
I sort of remember the way back home.

「Up we go.....」

I picked up the sleeping Hesty in my arms and headed home after staying out until morning.

Chapter 72: Remodeling Home Facilities before the Festival

I returned home and slept. It wasn't until after noon that I awoke.

It seems that there were monsters in the area but I let the golems take care of it as usual as I ate the lunch that Sakura made for me.

Then I went outside with Sakura.

「What will we be doing today Master?」

「Uhh, I was thinking about making that onsen that we've been putting off.」

Before the festival began I wanted to finish it.

After I went there and bought some sake, I wanted to come back home and enjoy the onsen while slowly sipping my drink.

「Onsen....you mean that thing we found underground?」

「That's right. That dangerous magic source thing.」

As we spoke we arrived at the entrance of the underground 'dungeon'. Our goal was the magic source.

「I'm getting used to coming here...」

「Master has come here several times to make the water pipe after all...」

The backyard of my house is right above the source.

I had already made an area for the onsen. The pipe exit was also there.

「All that's left is how I'm going to dilute this...Sakura can we find an underground stream if we synch?」

「Underground stream? If it was by myself it'd be difficult, if we use Master's magic power then I think we can」

「Ok, then let's synch.」

「Alright」

Then we synched and searched deep under my house.

Though the dungeon was quite large, it was all within our perception.

Of course, this includes deeper under the ground.
Just like that I was able to see the dungeon meandering about like an ant farm within my mind.

Somehow I started searching around the dungeon while making a kind of map in my head.

「....seriously, this dungeon is not only wide but full of resources.」

The more I looked the more I found. There were magic stones and things with magic stored in them lying around.

I was searching for water, but those were the only things that I could find so far.

「Fufu, it's a dragon vein dungeon after all. It can't be helped that resources like that will be birthed one after another.」

「That's right...Hesty did seem happy. She said that this dungeon was a treasure mountain...」

「Hesty-chan seems like she'd enjoy gathering the materials after all...」

As we talked I searched deeper and deeper into the dungeon until...

「Hm, there it is.」

「Oh, congratulations Master!」

At a place a bit far from the magic source, there was flowing water.
It was inside a dome-shaped area with a river-like source of running water.

「But Master, you did it really quickly...your perception speed and range is...」

「Well, I'm used to it after all.」

I've been living here for a while and I've synched with her quite a few times.
I might be grasping the trick to this.

「Anyways, it's pretty close so I'd like to connect them...but can we do that block construction thing down here too?」

「We can probably do so if we focus.」

「Alright then, let's get it done.」

「Ok!」

We pierced through the walls between the source and the water by moving them as block units, it didn't take too long.

After a few minutes I'd completed the route that would mix the source and the water.

There I could put the water pipe that I'd made from wood.

「With this the addition of water to my onsen is complete.」

「All that's left is bringing it up to the surface!」

Sakura said happily.

「I was wondering this when we first found it but...do you like onsens Sakura?」

「Uhhhhhhmmm...uh...yes. I'm a bit embarrassed, do you think it makes me seem elderly?」

Sakura nodded while blushing.

How should I put this...I haven't really had the opportunity to figure out her likes and dislikes...it's more like she didn't show them.

「Well, there's no need to be embarrassed you know? I like them too.」

I love lazing about and enjoying a hot springs bath...it's my favorite.

「Th-that's right...! I'd be glad to go in with you Master.....」

「Well it's good that we found something in common that we enjoy.—before we finish the onsen there's one more thing we need Sakura. We need a device to bring up the water and adjust it.」

「Ok!」

And so we finished the necessary preparations for our above ground onsen. When the water reached the surface it...should be safe for other people to use...I think.

Chapter 73: The Onsen's Effect and Bathtub Making

The sun had already set but I was still making my onsen.

My backyard had a pit dug for the hot springs to be located.

There the hot water was welling out.

「Ohh~, it's coming out pretty fast.」

The steaming hot water was gathering inside the pit.

「I wonder how dense the magic is in it...」

「Ummm...I think it's been diluted enough. I think that even normal people could get in.」

「Ohh, that's good.」

With the experience I had watering down the juice, I had a pretty good grasp on how to do it. It seems that I'd succeeded.

「Yeah, watering it down also cooled it to almost the perfect temperature.」

「Oh, you're right.」

The two of us swished our fingers around in the hot springs water.

It was the right temperature for a long soak.

My backyard is wide and the view isn't bad at all.

I hadn't made the other things for it...but the view of the moon and the stars was beautiful.

「Yep, if we make this right then we might be able to enjoy a moonlit bath.」

「Ah, that sounds good. Allow me to accompany you.」

「Ok」

As I was praising myself for making a pretty nice outdoor bath...

「Umm, Sakura?」

「Yes, what is it?」

「Is it just me or did the monster that's been watching us suddenly back off?」

「Ummm....I don't think it's your imagination.」

That's right, the monster that had been repelled constantly by my golems, the slime, was slowly retreating.

「.....」

It was acting unnaturally so I grabbed a wooden bucket that I'd made and filled it with water from the onsen. Then I faced the slime and tossed the water at it.

「——!!」

The monster started to try and escape desperately.

It was a wild monster so I think it has some good sense for danger so...

「So entering it is bad...it's dangerous?」

I didn't think that it'd run away so desperately.

Did I mess up the dilution?

「No, I don't think that's the case. Master has done a very good job of diluting it so that even a normal person would be able to endure it.」

If that's the case then it's good, but why did it run away?

「Well, it might be a monster that is weak to water with magic in it. Slime's can dissolve in water after all. This onsen may present a very real danger to it.」

「Fumu...a slime repelling onsen huh...」

I'm a bit worried but as long as it's not harmful to the human body I don't care.

「Hmm, all that's left is to make a stone tub like a real onsen. We can't just leave it bare like this.」

「Yes. Where will we be getting the stone from?」

I had thought about that, for this onsen I had one thing in mind.

「That big dragon scale that fell from the sky...we can use that.」

It had fallen down a few days ago and was an eyesore in my garden. I had been wondering if there was some way I could use it.

「I see. In that case it'll be harder than rock, lighter, and the processing shouldn't be too difficult.」

「Yeah, but I only have one shot. I don't want to mess up, so I'll have to call a specialist.」

「Specialist...you mean Hesty-chan?」

「Yeah, she was sleeping during the day but she should be up about now.」

It'd best to consult a Dragon about Dragon matters.

So with that thought in mind, I had the golems carry the Star Dragon King scale and headed to Hesty's cabin.

When we reached the cabin, Hesty was already awake.

She spoke to me with an apologetic look on her face.

「I, fell asleep, in town, and you had to, carry me home.....I'm sorry....」

「Hey, don't apologize. I don't mind it at all.」

Hesty was the one who carried me to town so I just called it even.

「n.....but, falling asleep, was my own, carelessness.....」

「Don't worry. If I get tired then you can carry me too Hesty, that's fine right?」

「I understand.....thank you...」

「Yeah.」

This Dragon King has a habit of shouldering responsibility...it's a bit troublesome. Leaving that aside...

「Hesty I have a few manufacturing questions to ask you. I wanted to use this

Star Dragon King scale as the stone for my onsen, is there anything I need to be aware of?」

I said and revealed the giant scale that was sitting outside of her cabin. Hesty tilted her head in confusion.

「n.....what's this?」

「This is the dragon scale that fell?」

「This big thing fell?」

「Yeah...that's right.」

That's right...Hesty had never seen it before.

「n, I haven't seen it before...but this thing fell?」

Hesty scratched at her cheek.

「Is there something wrong?」

「Yeah, if it was shedding, then something of such mass wouldn't have fallen... I wonder.—Can I, inspect it? I'll finish by the end of tonight...」

「Yeah, you don't have to hurry too much, I don't mind.」

If there's something wrong I'd like to have my resident expert investigate.

「n, then, I'll look it over tonight.」

「Ok, when you're done just tell me. I'll be sleeping.」

「n, okay.」

And so, I left the scale with Hesty and returned to my home to sleep.

Chapter 73.5: Side —Dieaneia and Hesty, Emergency Meeting and Information Leak

Late at night.

Dianeia was having a staring match with her documents.

On the paper was a map of the town with several red dots around it.

「Here and here...fuu...somehow I've finished the deployment of the mages.....」

After putting two final red dots on the paper, Dianeia set the document aside and let out a sigh.

Then she grabbed it and handed it to the Knight Captain who was standing nearby.

「Please arrange them like this Knight Captain」

「Thank you for your effort Princess.」

「If those things fall from the sky, then even if my subordinate mages are there we'll need two of them at least. It was a real pain to gather them.....I can only handle this because I'm looking forward to the festival tomorrow.」

「I'm just wondering if the whole town can be covered sufficiently. I'd really like to delay the festival for a bit if possible.」

「—It's a real danger, but they don't fall too often.」

They may fall, but at this point it would be very difficult to postpone it.

People had already gathered in the town and the merchants had already made their preparations...the reason had to be very concrete for it to be stopped or postponed at this stage.

「Well, it seems like we'll be able to do something about this..so I think it's alright. Even though there have been quite a few irregularities nowadays, we've

been relying on Daichi-dono far too much.」

Prussia is their city. It's their job to protect it themselves.

They couldn't keep relying on Daichi-dono's help to solve everything.

Even this time, they were only able to find out about the cause of the danger thanks to Daichi-dono's lodger.

「He is the man of the earth vein after all. I heard that he'd opened a shop.」

「It's a shop that sells delicious energy drinks. You should go see it for yourself if you're ever tired.」

「Hmm, alright. Recently I haven't been energetic in the mornings...maybe I should give it a try. Well—I'll send this document around.」

「I'll leave it to you.」

The knight captain left the room and Dianeia sank back into her chair.

「Fuu, thanks to Daichi-dono's juice my body condition is alright. I think I'll be able to hold out till the festival using only short breaks.」

After drinking it her body temperature wouldn't fall and her head would spin a bit.

It was like taking magic power straight from a magic stone, it felt as though energy was being driven into her body.

It was likely that there would be a backlash later but, 「Really...Daichi-dono is amazing.」

Even after taking in the magic from this fruit he could still contain it.

After she felt the overflowing power within her after drinking the juice, she didn't feel she could match him. Even so, 「It makes me happy...that I'm getting closer and closer...」

She said as a vigorous smile appeared on her face...then, *KnockKnock*

There was a small knocking on the window.

「Hm?」

This was pretty high up in the castle. She wondered if it was a bird or

something, but when she looked, 「Eh.....Hesty-dono?」

「n.....as I thought, you're awake. Good.」

Hesty was clinging to the edge of the window.

「Wh-why are you here!?!」

「I flew. Can I, come in?」

「Y-yes, I don't mind but.....」

She opened the window and Hesty quickly entered.

Then she shook her head from side to side.

It seems as though when she climbed the castle wall the rocks crumbles and fell on her head and face.

「I'm sorry for coming, so late, at night.」

「N-no I don't mind but what do you need?」

「n, I wanted to talk a bit, so I came. It's about the thing, we talked about.」

「Last night? You mean the Star Dragon King? You don't need to worry you know? I have deployed magicians around town to deal with the shedding of the scales so——」

「That's not right. It isn't, shedding.」

Hesty shook her head as she said those words.

「Uuummmmm...what?」

「The Star Dragon King's scales that fell were all, very large, right?」

「Ye-yes that's right. What I showed you was a small piece that'd broken off.」

「If it was shedding, then it'd be smaller. But this time, is different. The scales have, blood and skin, attached.—so it's either, illness, or serious injury.」

So the reason the scales fell was different?

「So, Hesty-dono...you came here to tell me that?」

「n, I gave you, incorrect information. I'm sorry.」

「No, it's not a big deal. Originally it was our responsibility to look into this.」

Honestly the research group would have had to study it and figure out what it was first...this was basically a short cut. This was something they should be grateful for.

「Yeah, you don't need to be sorry Hesty-dono.」

「n....but, if it's not shedding, then we need to be especially careful. What might fall, won't just be scales...」

「What did you say?」

「The Star Dragon King's body itself, could fall.」

Right now they could guess the Star Dragon King's general location by the places that the scales fell.

Based on that conjecture, Dianeia had placed mages around the area...in other words, 「The Star Dragon King could fall anywhere from the magic forest to the city?」

「Yeah. It'll probably fall...before too long. That girl, fell like this, before. So, I think, it'll be the same this, time.」

A gigantic 300-meter large dragon would fall on the town.

Hesty's words were deadly serious. Dianeia sprang into action.

「——I'll get the Knight Captain to gather everyone for an emergency meeting. Hesty-dono, I'm sorry but could you accompany me? I need information.」

「n, I understand. But can I return in the morning? I need to tell, him too.」

「Eh? You haven't told Daichi-dono yet?」

「n, he was sleeping. I thought, I shouldn't, wake him.」

Dianeia remembered that nothing good ever came of waking Daichi...

...but was it really okay to put that kind of thing off?

She froze for a moment...but then she remembered her determination to take care of everything that she could. So, 「I see. I will defend the town with all my strength. I'm in your care until the morning Hesty-dono.」

「n」

Picture

「Once more, the counter-measure meeting begins...!」

So, once more Dianeia's office was filled with people throughout the night.

Chapter 74: Kicking up a little fuss before the Festival

Because I went to bed quite early yesterday, I got up with the sunrise and I was able to eat Sakura's breakfast which I haven't had in a while.

「Yeah, if I eat Sakura's breakfast first thing in the morning, it somehow becomes even more delicious」

「Fufu, thank you very much. There seems to be a festival in town and I haven't made much, will it be enough?」

「Ou, it's enough. More importantly, is the festival starting from today?」

「If I am not mistaken, I think so」

I forgot to hear the exact time and date, but well, it's not a big deal. The festival of Prussia apparently continues for more than three days.

「Then if you want, shall we head towards town?」

「Yes. Shall I open the shop as well?」

What should I do? I've only moved the apples here, I haven't processed them yet.

「Should we just make preparations for today?」

The festival is going to continue for several days, so I'm sure 1,000 of them will be enough.

If I can fit a hundred apples in each box and have ten boxes, I should be able to transport it easily, though it will still take some time to process it all.

「We've managed to transport one hierarchy's worth after all」

「Well, the one who is going to be doing the transporting and the processing are the golems so we can just relax」

The one who had to squeeze the apples by hand are the golems, and the one who has to filter the liquids are also the golems so... All I have to pay attention to is diluting the concentration with water, so I really have an easy job.

Both in this forest and in Prussia there is a large amount of drinkable water so there isn't much effort required. While thinking about these kinds of things, I finished my breakfast.

「Thank you for the meal. It was delicious」

「Yes, Thank you very much!」

「Hmm, then shall we make preparations to head to town?」

「I think we should..... Eh, Master, I've detected a strange magical power moving in the skies above」

Saying that Sakura was looking outside of the window.

「A strange magical power?」

「If I had to guess——— I think that it's coming from the direction of the town」

Sakura's range of detection is very wide. That's why even if there is a strange magical movement in the town, it would have been possible for her to notice it.

「Umu, because there is a lot of people that is going to the festival, maybe it's just some guy shooting some strange magic into the sky?」

「I guess... Ah, —— a falling object is coming. I sense that it's the same thing as before」

Ahh, is that what she meant by a strange magical power. This time around I was at the top floor of the house, so it was possible to see it. From the direction of the town, there was an object coming towards my house diagonally falling from the sky.

「It seems to be flying with a great amount of force. ——Grow and defend us, Trees」

Just like before, the trees extended to form a wall and caught the object. Making use of the trees and blocking the impact, the scale of the Star Dragon King loses its force.

「Even so, this scale is really big isn't it?」

Or more like if scales this big are dropping down, isn't all the scales on its body going to come off soon? Well, I guess for me the number of construction materials increases so I'm quite happy about it.

..... After all, using one of the scales, I was able to create a small bathhouse. If I have two of these, it may become possible to create a large communal bathhouse.

「—— Oh, by the way, have we heard from Hesty? I fell asleep so I couldn't get the answer, but has she responded?」

Or perhaps it was still early in the morning, so maybe she was still examining it?

「No not yet, last night there was a reaction from the town but she hasn't returned yet」

「From the town? Did she go to grab an investigation tool?」

「It seemed like she was in a hurry...」

「Well, it's fine. I'm about to go to town right now, so I'll look for her while I'm at it」

I might just meet her on the way... Whilst thinking about this, I controlled the trees and carried the scale to the backyard.

And now that I was looking at the town from the top floor. It wasn't far away, but it wasn't close either, it was that kind of town.

「.....Hmm, it will take time to go on foot, so should I test out the Wood Armor that I developed last time?」

「That reminds me, Master did make something didn't he?」

「Well it's still in its trial period」

Considering the distance to the town, it may actually be a good opportunity for a test run. In any case, I started to use the nearby trees to make the Wood Armor.

「Nn? Master. The state of the town seems somewhat weird?」

Sakura tilts her neck looking puzzled.

「Weird? Whereabouts?」

「Look at the sky, isn't there some kind of shadow over it?」

「You're right. What is that?」

The clouds were broken, and it had a strange shape, and it made the sky look weird.

「Well let me put on the Armor, and I'll run over to see what it is. Sakura do you want to come as well?」

「Ah, yes. Please let me accompany you」

After saying that both Sakura and I left the garden, and I assimilated the Wood Armor with my body. I implemented this Armor with an acceleration device and a spring type device on its feet, this was a movement facilitating type Armor.

「Un, then lets go. ——Mode《Skanda》」¹

Together with Sakura, I ran towards the town.

Chapter 75: The Dragon King's Stardust

Both Sakura and I were running at a considerable speed as we ran between the forest and the town.

「T-this, is pretty amazing isn't it, Master? The scenery is flowing past us extremely fast」

「Ou, I was a little worried that I wouldn't be able to control it that well but, it seems like it's not that difficult」

Every single step I took left marks on the ground, I was running along the ground like I was flying. I still felt the impact whenever I land on the ground but because the Wood Armor is assisting me, there is little to no resistance on my feet.

Skanda uses Magical Stones for its fuel and spring, it also seems to increase the rate of acceleration allowing for high-speed movement. Because I made it considerably firm, even if I were to collide with rocks or monsters I wouldn't be scared. What I'm actually scared of is if I collide into a good person. Well in order to avoid that I was expanding my field of vision wider and confirming it.

「There doesn't seem to be anyone in this prairie」

「It seems so. There isn't even a single adventurer」

Normally there would be more people than this but unusually the place was deserted today. Or more like there have only been a few monsters as well.

「Well, at least we got to find out that it's easy to travel. Thanks to this I think we will be able to arrive quite early to the town」

While continuing to accelerate I was looking towards the sky. When I did the sky looked like it was taking the shape of a dragon, there was a big shadow above me.

「If we can arrive before that thing falls, that would save me some trouble」

「Yes」

「Then, let's continue to accelerate at this pace」

And just like that I ran towards the town without stopping.



The light from the morning sun shines in. Hesty and Dianeia was in the terrace of Prussia Castle and was looking towards the sky. A huge shadow loomed over them. The shadow of a dragon.

「It's coming already.....!!」

「Kuu..... To think that it would be coming in such a short time. The best we could do was to recommend everyone evacuate, but we really didn't have much time」

Even though Hesty took part in the meeting and imparted what information she had, it did not provide enough time for the Magician's Emergency department to react.

「Order of the Chivalric Knights, hurry up and protect the citizens!」

「Affirmative!」

The order of the knights and other magicians were trying to help the citizens evacuate whilst sheltering them from any falling objects. There was no way or time for them to stop that huge dragon from falling, and to begin with they didn't have sufficient power.

「—— That's why we must hold our ground here」

「Yeah, it is as you say, Hesty-dono. Therefore, we've tried to empty out the prairie」

At the meeting there was one strategy that was decided on. Or more like, other than this idea there was nothing else they could think of.

「..... I will set up a barrier. Using my barrier to weaken the force, we need to somehow drop that gigantic figure into the prairie. Is this the correct plan?」

「Nn」

Hesty had memories that spanned over 100 years ago. Back then the Star Dragon King was half-asleep as it dropped down, and at that time she stopped it using a similar method.

「Dianeia. Although I forgot to ask you, in terms of your barrier, how many

layers can you put up?」

「.....I can go up to 25 layers」

Even if you could put up to 5 layers, you were considered an advanced practitioner of magic, and yet she could do 25 layers. That was extremely amazing. Amongst human beings, she would be considered a top class magician but...

「Do you think you can try harder and make up to 40 layers? 100 years ago, we needed 40 barrier layers to stop it」

「Uuu..... F-forty.....I-I don't think I can. B-but, I think if I try my best I can make up to 30!」

Cold sweat dripping down her forehead, Hesty was making preliminary calculations while smiling a little. When the flying dragons were worried, they would also act like this.

No, they were much more straight-forward fellows, so lumping them together with Hesty was a little rude but it still made her think about them.

「Then I will be responsible for the last 10 layers. After that, I will use all my magical power to accelerate myself and ram into it to move it」

Afterwards, as the power of the barrier weakens she was planning to push the body and drop it towards the prairie.

「Are you planning on hurling yourself towards the body?」

「Nn, 100 years ago I also hurled myself and it worked to some degree. I'll try it again」

「Fumu, even though there is such a large difference in mass, will it still be alright? Well, I think the best I can do is to put up the barrier but I will try to back you up somehow if I can」

While saying that Dianeia was preparing her staff.

It was already possible to see the reddish-brown scale of the Star Dragon King. If it approaches a little more, they would need commence the operations.

「If it was possible, I would of wanted to contact that person....」

「You are referring to Daichi-dono? That reminds me I forgot to tell him」

「Nn, but it can't be helped. This time my information was flawed and there was not enough time」

Last night when she didn't tell him about this, it was also another mistake. I will need make up for my own mistakes. Thinking in this way, Hesty looks upwards.

The time was nigh.

「It's coming soon. I'm going to fly in about 5 seconds, so be careful」

Hesty puts power into her legs. The surrounding air trembles.

「Yea, then I will also —— deploy the barrier. Multiple Barrier 30 layers
《Shield・Toriakontsua》！」

Dianeia raised her staff over her head. In an instant 30 barriers of light appeared right under the Star Dragon King.

「I will also prepare Multiple Barriers!」

In coordination, Hesty also sets up her barriers. Altogether, there was 40 layers of barrier lifting up the Star Dragon King's body.

Zushiri! a large amount of weight was being placed on the barriers.

「Guu..... It's so heavy.....!」

Dianeia's face was frowning and cold sweat was flowing down. But thanks to her efforts, the Star Dragon King's body stopped falling.

「Now's the time....!!」

In that moment, Hesty flew towards the sky. Breaking the floor of the terrace she launched herself directly towards the body of the Star Dragon King.

「I will push it back just like this」

Hesty discharged her Dragon King's breath. Along with the impact it received the body of the Star Dragon King was being pushed back.

「uh.....」

There is no helping the fact that she would get hit by the aftereffects of shooting her breath at such a close distance. But rather than thinking about the pain, it was more important to push the body. Therefore, she used everything in her power, but...

「It's not budging....? This is.... the weight is different from before!?!」

The resistance she was feeling on her arms was different from her previous memory.

Hesty's figure as a dragon has not changed for the past 100 years. The other Dragon Kings were the same, when they reached adulthood, their bodies would not grow any larger. That's why there shouldn't be any sort of weight changes, but perhaps...

「This fellow has grown fat!」

Because it's been wandering around leisurely in the high altitudes, it seems to have grown fat. If you looked closely you would be able to see that on the scales that had fallen, there was flabby and excess amounts of fat stuck to the scale.

「This is, outside of my calculations....!」

If things continue on like this, she wouldn't be able to push the body back and instead it would start falling again.

Therefore, Hesty hit the dragon's stomach whilst shouting in a loud voice.

「If you still have any consciousness, you need to wake up!Ramuyros Esteria!」

And the moment when she called out the name of the Dragon King,

『The feeling of this magical energy..... is it my childhood friend, Hesty.....I wonder?』

A high pitched voice of a female dragon answered back to Hesty's question. And the Huge Dragon opened her eyes.

Chapter 76: The Savior Appears before the Festival

The Star Dragon awoke.

Hesty's ears heard a high pitched voice.

「Yo! It's been quite a long time. The one under my stomach, is my childhood friend, Hesty right.....?」

「Enough with the greetings! Wake up and move your body right now!」

Hesty was screaming her lungs out, but there is no reaction from the Dragon's body at all.

「I can't..... my body won't listen to what I want it to do」

「Why!?!」

「I think the other day, when I went into this empty dungeon? A weird slime creature coiled itself around me and has had this strange influence over me. I can't really use my magical powers. If I could move, I'd just transform into my human form before falling」

「Did you get some type of disease or something.....?」

Is that the reason she fell?

She understood the reason now. But still,

「Ramuyurosu, this situation occurred because you got so much more fatter!」

「You're such a meaniee~!」

Being mean or whatever, it was the cold hard truth.

Flying at such a high altitude living a carefree life where there wasn't much reason to move around, that's why she's become like this.

She's nearly twice heavier than she was 100 years ago.

「Guu.....」

Hesty was starting to yield to the weight and both her physical strength and her magical energy was gradually being reduced.

Because her arm was jammed into the scale in order to support the weight, her arms were already in a worn out state.

「Hesty.... I think it's better if you get away from me. Although the force of my fall has become slower, but from the way things are going, you will also....」

That kind of thing is something that she understood clearly.
However, underneath her was a whole town.
Willing to pay any price, she didn't want to move until the last minute.

.....I need to do everything in my power.

Hesty concentrates the remaining magical power into her mouth. And then,
「Ballistic White Flame!」

If only I can weaken the impact even a little bit more.... thinking along these lines, Hesty did her best to release a breath with all her remaining strength.
From the heat and the crash of the flames a white smoke appears. And ——

「Is it really.... no use....?」

Covered in the white smoke, Hesty was beginning to fall down.
Although she managed to slow down the speed of Ramyurosu's body, she was unable to stop it from falling down.

There was still a black shadow in the sky.
The white barrier holding them in place cracks and breaks.

At this rate it is likely that she will smash into the town. Including me.

..... This is all my big mistake....

If I paid attention, I could also tell that Dianeia was kneeling on her knee in the terrace.

Recovery was not working anymore.

..... in order to recover, I put out everything but it wasn't enough.

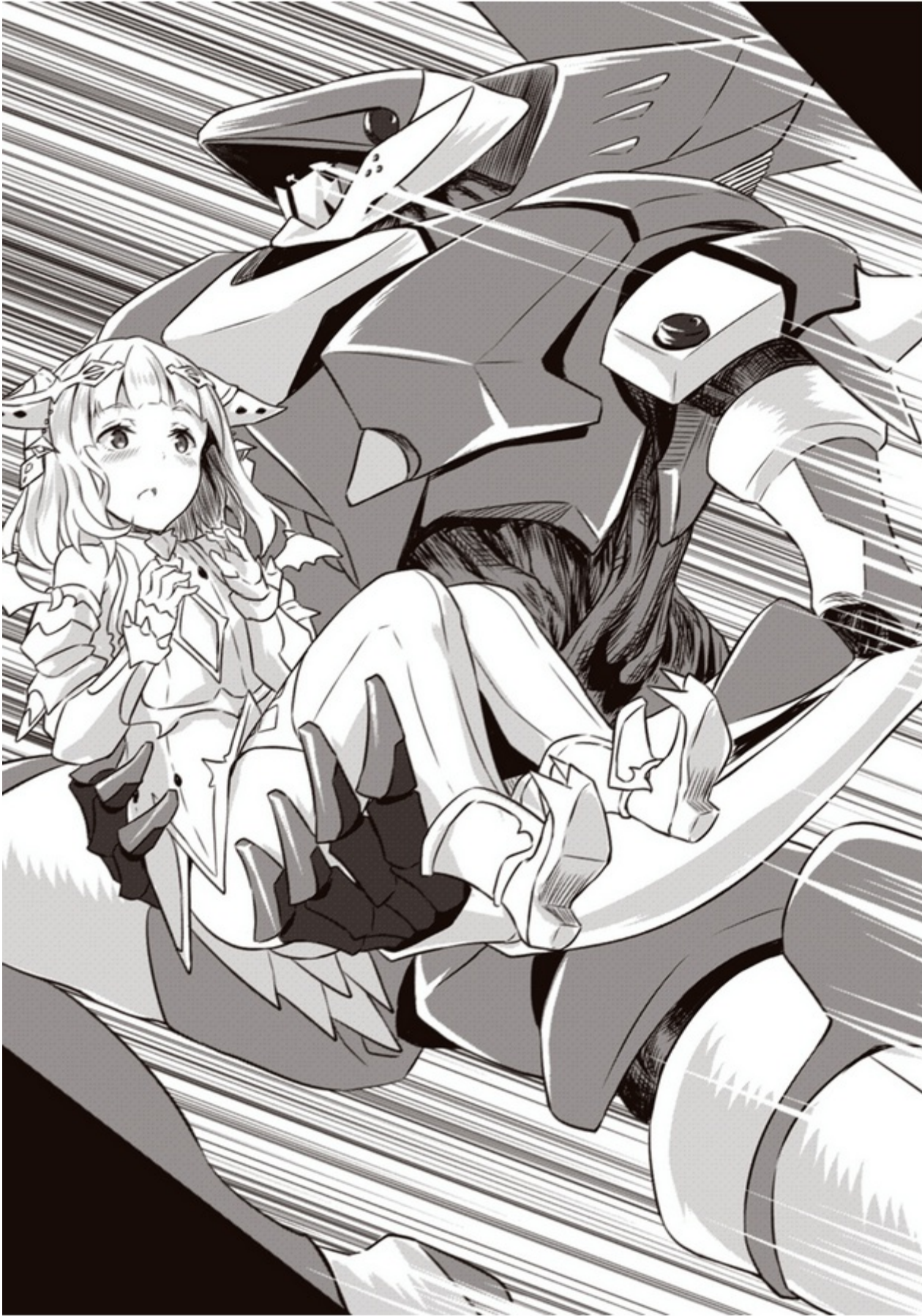
Thinking about these things, Hesty was continuing to look at the black shadow covering the sky. At this point in time.

「Woops! It's dangerous if you fall like that」

Hesty felt the sensation of someone supporting her back.

And when she turned around, there was...

Picture



「Why are you, over here?」

「You told me that you were going to tell me once you've finished your investigations right? But you weren't there so I decided to come to you」

It was the first man to have ever defeated me, and then saved me.



Carrying Hesty in my arms, I descended towards the ground. Because I was wearing my Wood Armor with Skanda mode activated, the impact of the landing was firmly nullified. I was just in front of my own shop so, I sat her down in the chair near the counter.

「I have quite a few things I want to talk to you about, but, well you've done well. Just sit over here and have a rest」

After saying that I enter the shop.

「W-wait! It's still up there.....!」
「Yeah, if that big one is still up there we can't talk properly can we. That's why I will stop it right now」
「tsu!?!」

I took out ten boxes from inside of my shop and Hesty was still trying to catch her breath.

These were the apples before being processed.

I started throwing a bunch of them towards the ground around the shop.

「Can we manage with this, Sakura?」
「I think so. The ground around here has a reasonable amount of magic, so if Master uses his magic, it should be more than enough to grow them」
「Is that so? Well, although this isn't really what it's supposed to be used for but, I can always bring more of these apples here so. Let's just use them up」

Saying this I cancelled my Skanda mode, and I rearranged the composition of my Wood Armor to the constitution of a tree.

「Mode《Vajra》activate」
「That's the ability you used to defeat me at that time.... I know that it's strong but I don't think it will be enough with just that.....!」
「Don't panic. That's not all I've got up my sleeve」

This was merely the beginning preparations. I turned my attention towards the seeds which had been planted in the area surround my shop.

「This is going to be the first time I'm going to do this outside of my house so... Sakura, I'm going to rely on your support. If it's still not enough, let's also use the Golems which are in this shop」

「Yes.But in saying that, with Master's power, I think that it will be more than enough」

「Ou, then let's do this, shall we?」

I started imagining the trees and shrubberies which were growing back at home.

After coming into this world, it was the first thing I used my magical power on.

Back then, if I didn't have the support of Sakura at home, I would not have been able to imagine it, but right now I have changed.

I've already done this so many times that I've become accustomed to it. Therefore, I used my magical power.

「——Absorb all of the magical energy and grow up into a gigantic tree!」

In that moment, the seeds which surrounded my shop had absorbed my magical energy and simultaneously they started to bud.

1000 roots of the apple trees started to intertwine and overlap with each other as it stood upwards.

「Become buried and deep-rooted! Repeat this process and lengthen!」

The root of the tree was becoming as thick as its own trunk, and it slipped into the underground area below the shop which had been dug out.

The height of the tree which had a very solid foundation exceeded the height of many houses, it exceeded the height of castles, it was approaching the skies. The trees were twisting against each other, compressing and becoming very compact.

「This is my shop. Accordingly, any fellow who wants to shut down my peace and enjoyment, will be stopped with my power」

After a few seconds, a long and large tree sprouted up from the center of the town.

And at the top of the tree something extremely thick and lushes was growing, the leaves were expanding outwards like some sort of umbrella.

「It's heavier than I expected but, thanks to both Hesty and Dianeia's efforts the force has weakened considerably and it's manageable」

The Star Dragon King's body was able to be firmly held in place.
The branches and the tree was creaking but it wasn't breaking or bending.

「——Amazing. This isn't where the dragon vein is location but.... You are still able to do this....?!」

「It's cause I've become used to it. Even if I am not at my home, I have become able to do something like this」

In reality I was only making a tree grow, it was a basic technique.
It wasn't really anything difficult.

.....Well, still if I did this at my house, it would be much easier and I wouldn't get tired.

But it is what it is. Right now this is fine. After all,

「I've managed to completely stop the fall, for the time being, we can now start our conversation, right?」

In this manner the fall of the Star Dragon King was stopped.

Chapter 77: A story within a story

Hesty who was worn out was sitting on the chair of the shop and was stunned.

「Oii, are you alright, Hesty?」

「Hah..... yes, I'm fine」

「Then, let's talk shall we? Hesty. Yesterday, why did you leave without waking me up?」

If she didn't leave so abruptly, I could have come to help her before she became this tattered. I was interested in why she didn't say anything.

「.....ahh, this is just for my curiosity. I'm not angry or anything. I only want to know the reason that's all」

After waiting for several seconds, Hesty started to speak.

「.....Waking you up while you were asleep, felt troublesome and I thought it wasn't something I should do」

Ahh, I see.

Hearing those words, I understood it.

I guess so. This Hesty, was willing to sacrifice herself for the dragons, she's the type of person who would be considerate of others.

However, she was a little mistaken about something. Therefore, I will correct it.

「Well the thing is, if you have a good reason it's alright to wake me up you know? Especially because this time I was the one who requested it」

「Nn.....」

If I was unreasonably woken up, or if someone continuously pestered me waking me up, it's natural for anyone to feel bad but.
Or more like, if someone was drunk when they got woken up they would probably feel ill but...

Even if she did wake me up, I wouldn't particular get angry or anything.

「Therefore, well, how do I say this? I've told you a long time ago but, you don't have to act so tense around me, you can relax and speak your mind, you know?」

「Yes.....」

Hesty made a small nod.

She grasps things quite quickly. I don't think this kind of incident will occur again.

「Alright, then that's the end of the conversation. Before doing something for this shop — We probably need to do something about that Star Dragon King up there」

The moment I looked up towards the sky,

「Haa..... Haa..... Was it you after all, Daichi-dono?」

Dianeia teleported in front of my shop.

「Ou, Dianeia. How should I say this... I feel bad for destroying the nice scenery in this town」

「No, that's alright. Rather I want to thank you for saving the town. —Really, thank you so much, Daichi-dono!」

Dianeia greatly lowers her head.

「Don't worry about it. The only thing I did was protect my own shop」

「Is that so? If you put it like that I'm very grateful.....」

And then Dianeia looks up into the sky.

「It was a really huge amount of power. If Daichi-dono did not grow the tree, the central part of the town would have been annihilated」

「No even now, isn't it in ruins because of the roots of the tree?」

Because I made it grow so forcefully, the pavement was dug up by the roots.

「N-no, it was a necessary sacrifice.Well, I will need to discuss with the people in the castle as to what we will do about this tree but....」

「Ah, you don't have to worry about this. After lowering this dragon, I will shorten this tree so」

「Eh!?This tree can shrink!?」

Incipiently, I don't think I've ever shown the growing of my trees to Dianeia before.

「I can't return it to being an apple again but, it is possible for me to compress the tree. Well, I can still use it as a defense mechanism for the shop so I think I'll make it into the size of a large tree」

The shop will probably be covered and wrapped around in this tree but, that will also have a charm of its own right?

「Ah, umm, b-because it's such an unexpected thing, p-please let me calm down for a minute. That method of using magic, is normally impossible to achieve.....」

When I talked to Dianeia about fixing up my shop, she was holding her chest and trying to take in deep breaths.

I don't think it was something to be that surprised about?

When I was thinking such things...

「Thank you, thank you....」

「Ahh, not only am I alive, but I've managed to see the legendary spirit lord, I am in luck.....」

An elderly person with a well-dressed attire was giving their respects to me. The only thing in front of their eyes right now was my grown up tree and me.

「Hmm? Why are you worshipping me?」

「.....Ah, Ahh, back in the olden days, this town had a saying. When the town has a crisis the spirits will protect us in the form of a huge tree—— The Yggdrasil world tree would come out and defend us, there was this kind of legend」

「Huh, the legend of the world tree?」

Well I suppose that's good? The situation this time around suited this town I suppose?

「It's almost like a nursery-tale but. ... I never would have expected for it to become true」

Well I also don't think that I made it happen, but well, at least everything

ended safely?

「Ok well, first off let's carry that huge dragon and place her in a wide spacious area, then we can talk more afterwards」

「Ahh..... That will be good. But how are you planning on carrying her down? Considering her weight, I don't think it will be possible to use teleport either」

「No, well I can just use this body of mine to do it. What do you think is the reason that I'm wearing 《Vajra》over my body?」

「Eh?」

After that I operated the shrubbery and made a path, then using the power given to me by my 《Vajra》mode I carried the Star Dragon King on my back and placed her on the prairie field.

All the elderly people seeing me pass by, they thought I was some kind of reincarnation of a guardian spirit or something, to be honest I was a little embarrassed.

Chapter 78: Washing the Dragon king

With a crashing sound I set the immobile dragon king on ground after I'd moved to the plains.

「Fuu, that was heavy.」

「Good job Master.」

It was so heavy that, even supported by my Wood Armor -Vajra+ I still got a little tired.

Well, after seeing how large its body was I had prepared myself so it wasn't a problem.

As I was thinking Hesty and the rest looked on in amazement.

「Why are you making a face like that?」

「Uh, well, you, carried it well.....」

「Yeah how should I put it...I had help to carry that giant stone. I had called the knights to help but it turned out to be pointless.....」

Oh, I was wondering why there were knights following us, so Dianeia called them.

It seems like she asked for lots of people to cooperate. I'm really sorry for not realizing it beforehand.

「Well anyways, let's confirm, the current situation. Even if she, struggles here, there won't be any problems, Dianeia.」

「Y-yeah, this location is fine even if there's a ruckus. The evacuation is also complete.」

「Got it. Well then, Hesty? I understand that this one's sick, but can't she turn into human form?」

She takes up way too much space like this. At the very least it'd be easier to talk to her if she was in human form.

「n....I spoke to her a bit, it seems like she got a slime stuck, to her. So until, it's taken off, she can't.」

「Slime huh...」

I'd heard a bit of the situation on the way over but, thanks to her scales being packed too closely together the slime was able to hide on her and stick on.

「Ramiyuros is the 「Hardest」 dragon king but her scales are just very hard. Underneath there is only skin. What's more, she's very carefree so she might not have noticed until the parasite started affecting her body.」

The scales of Ramiyuros the dragon king have fallen off here and there. I could see that at the location where they had fallen off, there was jelly like fluids.

「So this is the cause?」
「I don't, know. So, we should ask, the one in question. It looks, like she can, speak a bit」
『It's not just a bit, I can talk~』

In response to Hesty's words, Ramiyuros started talking in dragon speech.

『Ramiyuros huh? Can you speak?』
『Un, nice to meet you. I am Ramiyuros Estreya. You can call me Rami or Ramu Human-san that saved me.』
『I am Daichi. But I don't really think I saved you...I just sort of caught you.』
『Even so, I have taken it as being helped. Thank you.』

She was speaking in a friendly manner and I didn't feel any enmity. It seems like this dragon king didn't have any malicious intent when she fell.

I thought as I was about to continue the conversation, Dianeia poked me in the side timidly.

「U-umm Daichi-dono? You're letting out groaning and roaring sounds so I think you're conversing...but we can't understand. Could you please ask her to speak in the human language?」
「Oh, I see. That's right.」

I just got swept up and started talking in dragon speech. It must've been difficult to understand.

「...for him to be able to speak in the dragon tongue」
「How monstrous is this Earth Vein man....」

From behind me I heard the whispers of the knights, but I don't feel like kicking up a fuss so I'll ignore them.

「Can you speak in the human language?」

「Umm....it's a bit difficult, but I can a bit I guess?」

「That's more than enough. We've introduced ourselves so tell us why you got caught up with slimes and fell from the sky.」

「Uh...umm...about a year ago I flew into a sky dungeon, so I think it stuck to me around then. I was feeling overheated so when I felt a cool slimy sensation I just thought it felt good....but I never thought that it was a slime that had attached itself to me.」

Ramiyuros gave an embarrassed sounding 'ehehe'.

So she was enjoying a one year long slimy play? How lazy is the dragon king really?

「It got into a place that I couldn't reach with my hands so I thought 'can't be helped' and just left it. But before I realized it I couldn't feel my body....I couldn't move of my own will. Actually it took all I had to stop my body from doing things I didn't want it to.」

Then Ramiyuros's tail hit the ground twice.

When I looked I saw some knights who had been approaching were blown away.

「That wasn't by your own will?」

「Yeah, when things approach the slime on my body they seem to take control of my body to drive things away. I forcibly stop it but it's hard.」

I looked closer at Ramiyuros's neck and saw a purple colored slime attached to it.

It almost looked like a collar.

「Oh so it's this? Can I tear it off forcibly?」

I asked Hesty and she tilted her head sideways.

「I wonder. If you touch, it there is the possibility, of being absorbed. Also, the slime's core is inside its body, but deep within, so it might be a bit dangerous I think?」

So I can't do it by force?

This seems pretty troublesome. Or so I thought when,

「Fumu fumu, then if I teleport the slime away this'll be solved?」

Dianeia said as she approached.

At that moment.

—Boom!—

The slime shot out a sharp needle-like tendril.

「Hyaa!?!」

「Oioi, that's dangerous. Go tree」

I grew a wooden shield out of Vajra's arm and placed it in front of Dianeia who had stumbled to the ground.

The tendril made a dent in it so it was quite powerful.

「T-thank you Daichi-dono」

「Don't approach carelessly. I'd rather you not make things more complicated.」

But now I'm sure that the slime has its own will.

It was obvious. If not then it wouldn't act as a parasite or go wild when people approach.

「I see. If this slime has its own will then I've got an idea.」

I grasped Dianeia's hand.

「D-Daichi-dono? I-I'm happy that you're being more assertive, but I've lost power in my legs so I can't stand.....」

「You don't have to stand. But could you teleport me back home for a bit?」

「Eh?」

「I have something I want to get.」

Then a minute later I'd grabbed what I needed and was standing in front of Ramiyuros once again.

「Eh? What's, on your, back?」

「Well, this is something...I guess I'd call it a healing item.」

「Healing?.....wait, is that, the onsen? Right?」

Indeed, just as Hesty said I had two wooden tubes filled with onsen water. They were both filled with the liquid near the source.

I placed them inside of the firing mechanism in the wood armor's arm and pointed it at Ramiyuros.

Normally I'd fire bullets out but this was different.

「Well then let's start the giant dragon car wash. Water bullet fire!」

—Splash!—

With a vigorous booming the onsen water was blasted out. It was like a squirt gun but abnormally strong.

It needed to be at a level which could tear the slime off of the dragon's scales.

「——!？」

The slime was scared by the impact and jumped up and started trying to run and dodge.

「Oh, it's coming off, it's coming off. As I thought this onsen water works on slimes.」

「Um...it's not being, torn off, it's being cut, you know?」

Umm, it seems like the firing strength was a bit too much. It was supposed to shave it off...instead it's cutting it.

Well anyways, it's all the same whether it gets shaved off or cut off.

With that kind of thought I continued to wash the dragon for about 10 seconds.

「Hmm, this should be all of it.」

The giant slime was lying unmoving next to Ramiyuros's body.

「Alright. Now all that's left is the brute force approach right Hesty?」

「n, I guess. If you can pierce through, the slime's, core, that'll be the end.」

「——then this is the end.」

I didn't even wait a second before using my fist to punch straight through the slime's core.

Chapter 79: The Two Dragon Kings

Returning Home for a Bit

A couple dozen seconds after subjugating the slime.

I had removed Vajra and was looking at the Dragon King that was lying in the field.

「U-Ummm.....is it really alright now....? I wonder if I can transform....?」

Ramiyuros said sounding anxious then she was covered in white smoke. Then,

「Fuwaaa, Thank goodness. I'm saved.」

A human form was revealed soaked in onsen water.

Picture



It was a woman with light brown hair and a voluptuous body.

「Finally I'm small again. Sorry~ Daichi-san, Hesty, and you humans.」

「Small....? Ah, well...I guess.」

I suppose she is small in comparison to a dragon's size, but how should I put it...her chest and butt were large.

Anne was the same, I thought that maybe Dragon Kings have naturally good style (shape) but then I looked at Hesty.

「...What's wrong? Why are you, looking, at me?」

「This Ramiyuros is your childhood friend right?」

「n, yeah.」

I see. So, then it isn't due to age that their bodies developed like this. As I was comparing their bodies, Hesty started being a bit sullen.

「I can, feel your gaze, looking everywhere, so I'll tell you this. I am just, very good at compressing, my body size. These guys, are bad at it, that's all. Their physique, is the natural result, of that.」

Hesty said and turned away in a huff.

It might bother her but, I've got my doubts so it can't be helped.

Well later I can give her some nice wand materials to improve her mood.

「So, Ramiyuros. Can you move your body alright?」

「Yep, thanks to you. I can move all over~」

Ramiyuros happily moved her hands and feet around.

She appeared almost like a large dog wagging her tail.

From her I could sense something kind of animalistic.

As I was thinking, Ramiyuros looked at my face and bowed.

「Once again, thank you. I've caused you a lot of trouble, I'd like to do something to thank you. I don't know what to do. What should I do to thank humans?」

「Huh? I don't really need anything though...」

I still had apples, trees, and shrubs in stock and I hadn't received any wounds and nothing of mine was damaged.

So I turned to look at the still seated Dianeia beside me.

「Dianeia is there anything you need?」

「M-me? Th-that's right.....I'd like reparation money for the work we had to do and people we needed to hire. Also the cash reward for Daichi-dono needs to be paid.」

You've already given me more than enough cash, I don't need any more. Well for now I'll ignore it because the festival needs restoring...

「Ramiyuros. Do you have any money?」

「Un, I don't have any money but can you sell my scales?」

She said and pointed at the light brown scales scattered around the plains.

「E-eh....? Y-you're giving us Dragon King scales?」

「I haven't been down on the ground for about a hundred years so I don't know much...I don't know how much these are worth. How about it? At any rate the scales have already been removed from my body so I'd like to use them as compensation.」

「U-umm, it's more than compensation, in fact we'd make a large profit.....U-ummm one scale is about....and then you carry the one....」

Dianeia was flustered as she started to calculate the trade. Fumu, it seems like the compensation amount won't be a problem.

「Well then Dianeia, I'll leave the disposal of the scales to you. I'm going home.」

「E.....eh!? That's alright but...are you alright without receiving anything Daichi-dono?」

Alright or not...there's nothing I want to take.

「——Ah wait...that's right. Ramiyuros, I have something I want to make out of your scales so could you come over to my home?」

「Something you want to make with my scales?」

「Yeah, I want to make a bath out of it. It's your own scales so you know their characteristics, right? I need to process them so help me out with your knowledge.」

「Ok, I understand. If there's anything I can do to help, I will.」

Alright, with this my onsen will be one step closer to completion. It seems I'll be able to complete my goal of having my onsen finished before the

festival starts properly.

「Well then, Dianeia, we'll be returning to my house for some stuff.」
「O-ok. I understand. We'll return and set the town to rights. When the festival is ready to start up I'll notify you.」

And so, I returned to my home with the two Dragon Kings before the festival.

Chapter 80: Dragon King Rotenburo

The two Dragon Kings and I stood in the backyard of my home.

Sakura had returned to the house before me and she seems to be preparing lunch.

I'd like to be able to finish my preparations so that I could complete the onsen so I'd like to hurry and hear about the pertinent information.

「Here I have two of your scales. I'd like to use them for this.」

I slapped the side of the scales that Ramiyuros had dropped and she looked apologetic.

「Ahh, they fell here too? I'm sorry Daichi-san~」

「It's already over and done with so don't mind it too much. So, I'd like to bend and break these scales to make my bath, are there any important things I need to be aware of?」

I asked and Ramiyuros made a puzzled face and tilted her head to one side.

「Important? Umm nothing much. My scales are hard...that's their only attribute. They don't have anything else special about them.」

「Wait wait. That hardness, is the problem. Ramiyuros, you speak too, vaguely.」

After hearing the casual reply from Ramiyuros, Hesty supplemented it all flustered.

「Ramiyuros...the Star Dragon King's scales are the hardest. They are one of the hardest to process. If you're not careful when trying to break them, you could be, injured, or waste time.」

I see. They're that hard huh...

That's right, Dianeia said something to that effect as well.

Something like, they needed many mages working together to break it.

「Wow amazing! As expected of Hesty. Knowing that about me when I didn't even know! I never made anything using my scales so I had no idea.」

「.....well, it's like this. She's an easygoing, person, and doesn't have a lot

of, knowledge, so if you need to ask, ask me.」

Hesty looked a little fed up with Ramiyuros who was still clapping her hands. How should I put it, these guys have an interesting affinity?

「Well then, if you've got a way to break them I'd like to know. How do you do it?」

「The trick is to use your power in a certain direction and pattern. If you do it correctly then it'll be a bit easier.」

I looked closely at the scale and saw what appeared to be the grain of the scale.

I see so this is what she meant by pattern.

「n, but even then, it's hard to break. Normally you'll need to put, your magic in and, persevere. If there's not enough power in it, then you can damage the scale's hardness.」

「Fumu fumu, then maybe using 《Vajra's》 arm」

I only equipped Vajra's arm.

Then I grabbed the scale and did as I was told,

「Haaa.....!」

I used my strength with the grain of the scale and...

—Ting—

With a sound akin to metal snapping the scale cracked a little.

「Ohh, it broke but it really is hard.」

It appears I'll have to use more power than I've ever used to manufacture a material.

It'll take a bit of time to get the hang of it.

I thought but when I looked at Hesty her eyes were staring intensely as she quietly muttered.

「.....sorry. Let me revise, my previous statement. Breaking it is, difficult. Usually it takes, years of work, before the scale is ready for, tempering...or so it should've been.....」

It seems like Hesty is holding her head and worrying about something...I wonder if she's ok?

「Well, anyways it's good it broke. This scale really is hard.」
「n, Ramiyuros's scales are, top class defensive, items. They're hard, strong, and don't degrade much over, time. That's why, when they appear on, the market, they sell for, a high price.」

「Ehehe~ if you praise me like that it's a bit embarrassing~」
「...leaving aside the person herself, the materials are top class.」

Whenever Hesty gets entangled with other dragon kings, her expressions seem to become more abundant.

I thought as I turned to touch the top class material.

It wasn't just hard...it's cross section appearance was beautiful and it felt smooth.

When I tried to bend it horizontally it did so beautifully. It was hard but it was also flexible.

It seemed very useful, a very good material.

「un, this flexibility is, very hard to utilize. You need a lot of power...but it seems, you're able to draw out the, characteristics, of dragon king, materials.....」

Hesty seemed to be looking at me with worn out eyes.
It took me a while to realize, but she had been trying to catch Ramiyuros before with all her might.

「Hesty, if you're tired then go rest ok?」
「n. Right now, I'm just tired of, reacting. So don't worry.」

I see. Then if Hesty says so I won't worry and get back to work.
I broke Ramiyuros's scales into pieces and made them into a rectangular tub.

For now, I'd like a tub that can fit 10 people comfortably.
Also, I didn't want the tub to be rough on bare skin so I shaved down what needed to be shaved down, and bent what needed to be bent. Then,

「Alright! With this the tub is finished.」

I'd made an oval shaped tub.

All that was left was to properly bring the pipe over and fill the tub with water.

—then put together a small roof and changing area,

「Now I can go in the onsen anytime.」

And thus my house gained a rotenburo made of dragon king scales completing my open air bath. I look forward to going in and enjoying.

Chapter 81: Dragon's Hot Bath

After the onsen was completed Ramiyuros suddenly approached a tree in my orchard.

「Fumyuuu....」

「n? What's wrong?」

「.....I'm at my...limit...sorry.」

Ramiyuros's eyelids were fluttering open and shut.

「I exhausted myself, resisting...so...sleepy...」

She said and collapsed completely asleep.



It seems like she's the type to recover magic power through sleeping as well.

Leaving her like that isn't good...but it seems like Hesty is dragging her back to her own cabin.

Though I must say her method of dragging is a bit...rough.

「Well, if I leave it to her then it'll be fine...lots of things have happened so I

might as well have a bath.」

There was still time before lunch would be ready so I decided to give this bath a try before anyone else.

In the dressing room I undressed and lightly rinsed my body, then immersed myself in the bath.

The onsen was shrouded in white steam as it slowly warmed my body.

「Ahhhh, as I thought this is wonderful.....」

I relaxed in the tub as my body slowly began to unwind.

「.....」

Hesty had returned from her cabin and was looking at me.

「What's up? Did you want to come in Hesty?」

「n.....? I can, come in too?」

「Yeah, use it as you please. I made it to be used.」

Also, this onsen has magic power in it. It'd be good for Hesty who has some wounds here and there on her body.

「n, this will, probably...work on my injuries.」

「Then come on in and get better. It's a...hot-spring cure!」

I said and Hesty's gaze seemed to waver.

She looked at her body, then at mine.

「I'm, pretty dirty right now, is it ok? When I entered, a human bath house, covered in dirt, they got angry.」

「Well, if you wash a bit it's alright. The drainage area has a vent so it won't be blocked. Also dirty water will be drawn away by the drainage.」

There's a lot of onsen water coming from the dungeon below so water supply shouldn't be an issue.

「n.....then, I'll come in.」

She said and removed her clothes. She then tottered over to the changing (bathroom) room.

There she washed off the worst of the mud, then entered the bath tub. Then,

「....Fuwaaaaa.....」

She let out a voice I'd never heard from her before.

「Ou, it feels good as I thought.」

「n....it's not often, I get to take a bath, in such a big tub. Also, it's always with, cold water.」

I see. She's a dragon so she usually doesn't get to submerge herself in hot water like this.

「Fundamentally, dragons are tidy, so we bathe ourselves. The water is, usually cold though....Ramiyuros is an exception though.」

「As I thought...」

「Normally, a dragon won't have, a slime stuck to them, for 100 years. If they bathed during, that time, it'd come off.」

Oh, so that's how it is. Would that slime that was on her come off?

「....well, that slime, had sucked a lot of, strength and magic from her so, probably not. It's core was also, abnormally large....oh...what did you do, with the slime's magic core?」

As Hesty said, I had indeed taken the slime's magic stone but,

「Um, I buried it like usual.」

While Hesty was away for a bit I had buried it under my house like usual.

I thought that it was pretty much the same as the dungeon master's core so...I dealt with it the same way.

「....a while ago, I felt like the dragon vein's, magic had been, strengthened a little bit, but that's why.」

「Hee, I thought it'd strengthen it a bit. But I honestly couldn't feel it at all.」

「Don't worry about it. For you, it'd probably be like, noticing there were a few more, grains of sand in, a desert.」

I don't know what to think of that comparison. I'd like to be able to sense things too. Later I'll ask Sakura and Hesty the trick to it. Well, at any rate...

「Relaxing and soaking in the onsen like this is great. I'm glad everything ended well.」

「n」

Hesty gave a small nod and looked at my face.
Then she gave a little embarrassed laugh and said,

「Also, I waited a bit, but thank you. You really saved, me....I was happy you came.」

「Ou, It was my pleasure.」

We continued to converse as we slowly enjoyed the warmth of the onsen.

Chapter 82: Lunch Preparations

Using the hot water of the onsen my body was warmed for several minutes when...

「Daichi-dono~. Are you here—Wait...Wahiyaaa!？」

It seems like Dianeia came calling with a large basket. Apparently she had teleported to the outer area of my garden and walked over.

I hadn't made a wall around the onsen, so everything within was visible. I had thought there wouldn't be anyone who would come peek so I made it without any such defenses...but I suppose that I do have guests from time to time.

I thought that I could make a wall out of a tree pretty easily.

「It's Dianeia huh? What's up? Has the reopening of the festival been decided?」

I leaned out of the onsen and asked...but her face was bright red and she averted her eyes.

「D-Daichi-dono! I-I think it's bad to be nude at this time, un!」
「It can't be helped. I'm in an onsen.」

My towel is hanging on a nearby tree, but if I were to try to get it, I'd have to stand up fully naked.

「...well you shouldn't be able to see much below my chest...」

Since it didn't seem like we'd be able to continue our conversation like this, I submerged myself once more into the onsen. The hot water was pretty opaque so I thought it'd be useful for hiding my body. Dianeia seemed to sigh in relief.

「So? Something about the festival?」
「Y-Yeah, that's right. I wanted to tell you that we were thinking of resuming the festival tomorrow.」

She still looked away but sent furtive glances towards me as she said that.

「There wasn't a lot of damage, but there was a lot of chaos. After handling all the important matters and other things today, we can start it for real tomorrow.」

「I see. Well I've used up my supply of apples so the extra day is quite welcome.」

Once there were less people out at night I had a couple of boxes I wanted to carry in.

「I-I see. Then that's great!」

「——so, what's in the basket?」

She seemed pretty careful with it so I wonder what's in it...

「Ahh, this is alcohol and food.」

She said as she put it down. She took several clay pots from within the basket.

「These were made in conjunction with the start of the festival today, but it was put off till tomorrow. They'd be wasted if they weren't consumed fresh so they are being given to the people of the castle and town.」

「and...why did you bring it here?」

「...Everyone agreed to give the best things to Daichi-dono. I agreed as well, and brought it for you.」

I see...I'm grateful but,

「I didn't really do that much work...is it alright?」

「T-that's ridiculous. If that counts as nothing much then I really can't say what would be!」

Well...if I had to say...I wasn't the one who worked hard, it was Hesty and Dianeia.

I basically only played a gigantic game of catch.

「W-well anyways, please accept. These haven't been opened, so it'd be nice if you drank some. Something like 'celebrating the eve of the festival'」

Dianeia said and took a bottle of sake from inside of the basket.

「Sure...it'd be good to have a nice drink with my lunch...I was thinking that there was a little something missing with my onsen. Having a drink while

relaxing in my onsen would complete the experience.」

It seems like I'm in for quite a pleasant time, or so I murmured when,

「O,Oooh, that's right! W-would you mind if, I entered as well!?!」

Dianeia said with a strange amount of force and tension in her voice.

Fumu fumu, it seems like she likes onsens as well. (TN:Dude are you kidding me?)

「That's fine. Come in and give me your feedback. Over there is the dressing room.」

「U,umu! Th-then I'll be entering!」

Dianeia happily headed towards the changing room. As I watched her retreating figure, I rose from the bath and grabbed my towel before wrapping it around my body.

「Mm, then I'm going up to help prepare lunch, use the onsen as you please」

「Eh.....?」 (TN: Daichi you SoB...why you break her heart?)

Sakura should know that Dianeia is here.

But she probably doesn't know what she came here for, so I'll tell her.

「You're here so the number of people eating lunch increased. I need to let Sakura know」

「Wai-eh?.....Da-Daichi-dono.....!?!」

「Well then, enjoy it at your leisure.」

And so I left the onsen and went to prepare for the lunch party.

Chapter 83: Magic Stone's Effect and the Effects of Magic Power

After getting out of the bath, Sakura and I set up the table for lunch.

Then,

「.....pii」

「Huh?」

On the outskirts of the garden there was a blue colored slime. However, this slime wasn't the formless blob that I'd come to recognize, but shaped like a human.

Its shape seemed like a human woman. It didn't look like it was coming to attack, but instead remained under the shade of a tree and bowed its head.

「What's up with that slime?」

「It...doesn't look like an enemy?」

So, it doesn't seem hostile to Sakura either? Usually it would invade my land trying to get more magic power. Why isn't it doing it this time?

「Uhhmmmm...Master, you handled that giant slime's stone by burying it right? It may believe that you are its superior due to this.」

「Seriously?」

I just buried it...how did it turn into this?

「Monsters are mostly faithful to their instincts and instinctively loyal to their leader. Also neither of us are showing hostility. It may be trying to show its loyalty by taking a shape close to yours.」

「I see.....lemme approach and see.」

I approached the woman shaped slime and it began to shake strangely before it bowed its head even more deeply.

「Pi—piii」

「Yeah, you don't have to be so scared. We're not enemies.」

I called out, and the slime timidly raised its head.
Fumu, even though it's a slime it seems to be able to understand words.
I wonder if it'll be able to speak...does it have vocal cords? I'll ask Hesty about the local flora and fauna later. As I thought that...

「Pi,pii!」

The slime made a friendly sound and quietly disappeared into the forest.

「What was that?」

「Probably appealing to you that it wasn't an enemy.」

As expected, I couldn't understand slime speech, and what it said was unknown...but as long as it's not hostile, I'm happy.

「But still...I don't know what it said...」

「Would you like to try and cultivate an apple to allow you to understand?」

「If I feel like it.」

As I continued to chat with her, we finished up our lunch party prep.
I should go call the people in the onsen soon.

Dianeia had quietly entered the onsen.

Then,

「Uuuu...I screwed up...」

Her shoulders drooped as she sat in the warm bath.

「.....how should, I say this...don't mind.」

「Thank you Hesty-dono.....Aah, it's so warm and nice.」

As she thought to herself that she should've asked to relax together, she splashed her face with the water.

「n, umm...about the matter, with Ramiyuros. Is the town, alright?」

Hesty asked with a serious look on her face.

In response, Dianeia nodded.

「Yeah, you don't have to worry. We have received the compensation so there is no problem on that front. Plus, leaving Daichi-dono aside...you helped us quite a bit Hesty-dono.」

「I didn't, do anything. It was thanks to him, that everything turned, out alright.」

「No, even so...thank you Hesty-dono.」

It was thanks to her that they were able to make early preparations. That is a fact.

Hesty simply scratched at her cheek with an expressionless look on her face.

「n.....even if you thank me, I didn't do much. As I thought, if he wasn't, there, then it would have been, dangerous.」

「That is my burden to bear. I.....only cause him trouble, if I were stronger then I would be able to protect the city.」

If she had been able to put even more barriers up, then she might've been able to stop the dragon king from falling.

As she thought that, the desire to become stronger continued to well up within her.

「n? Dianeia, for a human, you are, more than, strong enough.」

「Haha.....for the White Dragon King Hesty-dono to tell me that...I've regained a bit of confidence.」

But...it's not enough.

I need to train harder and get stronger, she thought as she immersed herself in the onsen.

「Ha Fuu.....alright, I gotta try even harder!」

She said and splashed her face with water to calm her unsettled heart.

「Fuu.....but still, after bathing with Hesty-dono I feel my mind getting more and more awake...getting energetic.」

A while ago she had been relaxed, but a heat was rising up within her body. She thought it might be the dragon king doing something to cheer her up. If that was true that'd be nice.

「n, that's, not my doing...it's this onsen. It has strong, magic power, which is permeating, your body. It raised your, magic power, a little bit.」

「——EEEHH!？」

Dianeia was so surprised she jumped up.

She had never imagined that the onsen had this kind of effect.

「Uh—ummm...if I were to stay in here, would I keep getting stronger?」
「Yeah, but, you should be, careful, you know?」
「Huh?」

As Hesty said that, Dianeia began to feel giddy.

....this....isn't....vertigo!?

Her field of vision began to spin and she couldn't stand right.

The world began to spin, her balance disappeared, and she couldn't stand.

「Ah, I was too, late.」
「Nu,nuoooooooo?」

Just like that Dianeia fell to her knees and began to collapse.
But she was caught by Hesty.

「Magic intoxication. Without, strong magic resistance, this happens. But, if you relax, for a bit it'll, go away. But, it's dangerous, so I'll lay you outside, of the bath.」

Hesty said and slowly dragged Dianeia out of the bath.

「I-I'm sorry. But to think that I can't enter the onsen without training.....」

She'd let down her guard when she saw Daichi so naturally relaxing in the bath. But she'd forgotten about the crazy amount of magic he possessed.

「Well, that guy who enters, so casually, is abnormal. So don't mind.」
「U, umu.....」

As she was being carried away by Hesty, Dianeia thought...this is the first time that taking a bath was difficult. And so,

.....she wanted to get stronger...strong enough to use the bath as long as she pleased.

And as she looked at the sky, she determined her new goal.

Chapter 84: Sometimes it's Just the Two of Them at Home

Right after the lunchtime feast, I got sleepy.

Thanks to the slightly intense usage of magic power I wanted to take a nap but,

「.....Hmmm...I slept till midnight huh?」

I looked out my window and saw the full moon glowing in the night sky.

It was already late at night but,

「I'll go back to sleep.....or I would if I was still sleepy.」

I'd already slept for almost 10 hours so I guess that's natural.

I was thirsty so I got a drink of water...but that only served to make me even more awake.

Even so, it would be quite a while before it was morning.

.....I wonder what I should do.

I guess I could use Skanda and the golems to carry apples into town but...

「It's not really something that needs to be rushed either...」

It wasn't like I was going there first thing in the morning to make a living...I was doing it more as a hobby.

It was something I did when I felt like it, and if I had extra apples. So if I took them in the morning or afternoon when I went to the festival...it'd all work out.

Furthermore, it was a quiet and peaceful night. I didn't want to break that calm with such excessive movement. So,

「I guess I could just get in the bath.」

I went to the trouble of making it, so it wouldn't be a bad thing to take my time and enjoy it.

With that in mind I set off to take a bath.

「Fuuuu~」

As I relaxed in the onsen, I started to feel a little sleepy as my body warmed up.

And just like that, I gazed up at the beautiful night sky as the water warmed me. Then,

「So this is where you were Master.」

Sakura said as she walked over from the changing room.

「Oh Sakura, I was wondering where you were when I saw you weren't in the room. So this is where you were.」

「Ahh, no. I was finishing up my patrol around the house and was heading back to gaze upon your sleeping face when I sensed you were here.—Would it be alright if I joined you?」

「Oh, that's fine.」

「Then, please excuse me.」

She said as she removed her clothes and entered the bath. Then she slowly approached my side and sat down.

「Ha~fuu~.....Master's onsen feels so good.」

「I'm glad you like it. It was worth making it this large.」

It was wide enough that even if ten people got in...it wouldn't feel confined.

「Yes. I'm also thankful that I can enter around this time while I'm doing my rounds.」

That's right...she did say she was patrolling before. I never realized what Sakura had been doing for the few months that we've been here.

「No no, it's nothing much. I just do make a lap around the house, look at your sleeping face, sense the state of your health, and make breakfast.」

「That's already quite a lot...ummm...thanks.」

「No, it's as it should be.」

Sakura said with a small giggle. I've received so much from her...I want to pay her back...even if it's just a bit.

...oh that's right.

There's one thing I have at the very least.
When I remembered it I got up and headed to the dressing room.

「Master?」
「I have a little reward for your hard work, drink this.」

I retrieved a pot of liquor and a set of small cups for sake from the dressing room and brought it back.

「This is...?」
「It's the best alcohol they have...Dianeia brought it.」

According to her, it doesn't cause a hangover or nausea even if you have a lot.
I think it's the perfect thing for right now.

「Didn't you drink it for lunch yesterday?」
「No, I set it aside because I wanted to drink it with you. So I thought now was a good time and it can serve as a bit of my thanks to you.」

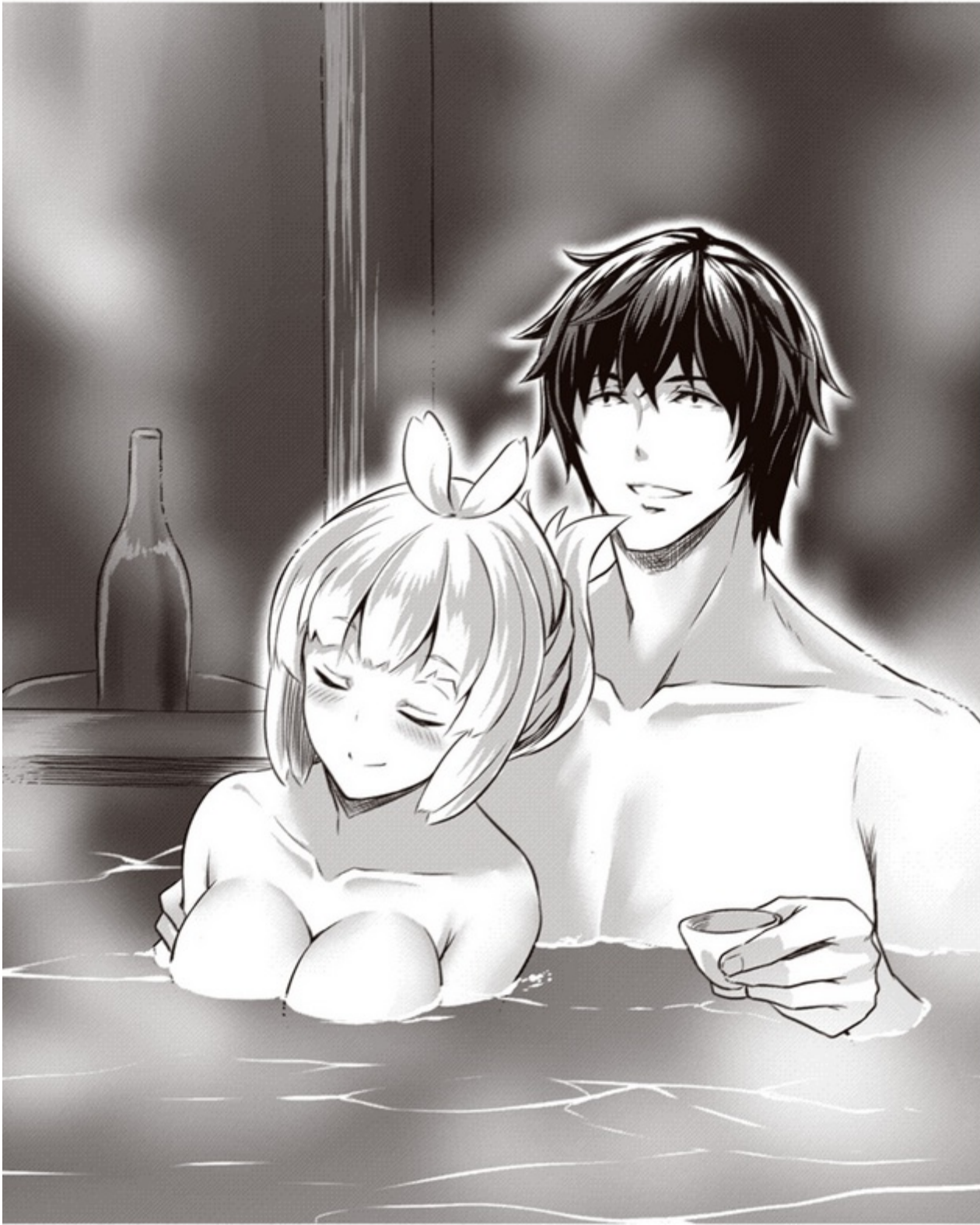
I said and poured Sakura a cup of liquor.

「Th-thank you very much. Then I will accompany you.」

I poured some into my cup as well and we both quietly drank.
It was delicious and refreshing.
It gently began warming my insides in a different way than the onsen.

「Is it good Sakura?」
「Yes, but having you do such a thing for me makes me feel almost guilty.」
「No no no, don't let it bother you. In fact I've received so much from you.....
also things have been busy so I haven't had the opportunity to relax with you like this Sakura.」

Sometimes it's good to relax together like this.
I thought to myself, when Sakura cuddled up to me



「Sakura?」

「Passing time peacefully with you makes me so happy.」

「I see.」

Although it's nice when people come over and it gets lively...

「...I also like it when it's just the two of us.」

「Me too.」

And so, Sakura and I cuddled in the onsen while enjoying good sake and good company.

Chapter 85: Further Growth and Future Plans

The next morning we stood in front of our house which had grown even larger.

「It really got quite a bit bigger in only a single day...」

「Yes, it got much bigger after entering the onsen with you Master.....」

Sakura murmured while blushing.

Last night we'd entered the onsen while having some normal skinship...and this morning we found the house had gotten 10 more floors.

It was a surprising amount of growth.

In fact I think it grows much too easily.

For now I need to bury the extra floors to maintain the top floor's stability...I'd like to build some separate facilities but...

「That onsen...rather than saying it improves the chances of making kids, it increases the chances of making houses.」

「I believe you're right. Let's enter again another time Master!」

Sakura said happily. Her skin looked smooth and glossy.

It seems she really liked the onsen.

「When I need more floors then I suppose we should enter once more...」

「Yes! In preparation I will keep the onsen nice and clean!」

Sakura said and ran towards the onsen.

...I guess it'd be alright to leave the onsen under her supervision.

As I thought that...

「Hello~!——huh...whaaa....!?!」

Dianeia walked in from the garden and looked at my house in surprise.

「I-it's gotten bigger again. What happened?」

「Well...this and that...anyways, isn't today the day of the festival Dianeia? Is it

alright that you're not there?」

Yes indeed, for the next four days Prussia would be celebrating their forefathers with a grand festival.

Various stores and their branches should need supervising and opening or so Dianeia had said.

So I was thinking that she'd be very busy.

I was wondering if it was really alright for her to be here when,

「Yeah, it'd fine. After the initial preparations the rest is left for the Merchant Leader to take care of. I need to guide around guests of honor on the third day, but today and tomorrow I'm free to do as I please...I won't be able to completely relax, but compared to those all-nighters this is easy.」

Dianeia said with a wry smile.

If she says that's taking it easy then I have nothing else to say...but,

「I never found out, what exactly is going on in this festival?」

I'd received a basic outline but nothing specific.

「Oh, that's right...I never explained to you Daichi-dono. Magic is very popular in my city. So, there are many who take the opportunity to present and sell their magical research and sell magic things. For this purpose there are many people who patronize them. There are adventurers, magic knights, soldiers, and other scholars who desire the knowledge and items.」

「Huh...how's the security at the festival?」

From what I've heard it seems like a gathering of dangerous people.

「As for that there's no problems. Over the years the adventurers who attend have dealt with problems as a courtesy, also there are guards for the bigshots who come from far away.」

「Huh, so there are lots of big shots then...sounds difficult.」

I said and nodded when I noticed Dianeia staring at me with wide eyes.

「No...ummm...in my opinion Daichi-dono is in a high position.....」

「Huh? No I'm just a regular guy.」

I don't have any kind of position.

I'm just a regular dude who's trying to live peacefully in the forest.

「...w-well...let's leave that aside for now. A-are you coming today Daichi-dono?」

Yeah I thought I would but,

「Today's the first day...will there be a lot of people during the day?」

「Yes, there will be a lot of people」

「I see...then I won't go during the day.」

「n? why?」

I had two reasons. First off was purely because I didn't want to have to push my way through crowds of people. I don't want to wear myself out mentally like that. And the other reason was,

「I can use the magic suppressing coating, but I'm not sure how good it is」

Plus assuming it went well, if I needed to remove it for some reason, or if it got removed for any reason...it might cause a disaster.
It might turn from carnival into carnage.

「.....ahhh, oh. I think that I'd be fine...but there's the possibility that the soldiers' hearts might not be able to handle it...and the women would all need to change their underpants.」

Dianeia slowly nodded....then after a few more seconds of thinking, she nodded again.

「However, I think it should be fine. The people who have arrived in Prussia all possess magic resistance to some degree, so I think you'll be fine anytime you'd like to come.」

「Is that so? Then I'll just go like normal...」

「Ok, go ahead. But I'd like to tell you, if you'd prefer a less hectic time then you should come in the evening.」

I see, then I'll be going tonight then.
As usual.

「Then I'll be imposing on you this evening.」

「Ok. Then I'll have to adjust my plans.」

「Adjust?」

Why? What are you doing?

「No...umm——I just wanted to guide you around town Daichi-dono.」

That's right, I haven't been to Prussia much and I'm pretty unfamiliar. If she could take the time to guide me it'd make things much easier. Though I don't think I'll be moving from my shop much...

「I see, then I'll be in your care Dianeia」

「Ok! Then I'll see you tonight!」

And so my schedule for tonight was set.

For now, I'll do what I need to until the sun sets.

Chapter 85.5: —Side Dianeia— Prussia Top Secret Report

Dianeia was observing the town as she returned to the castle.

It was the first day of the celebration but there were more people than usual.

.....Although there was the big Dragon King falling incident, it seemed as though things were going smoothly.....

The fact that the people were able to enjoy the festival safely was welcome. She thought as she realized that it was thanks to that man who lived in the forest. Her line of thinking continued until she began to think on her lack of strength.

She remembered his face and her chest started to hurt a bit.

「I have to go...show my gratitude once more.....」

She murmured as she entered her office and,

「OHH Princess! Thank goodness you've returned!」

The Knight Captain dashed towards her in a panic.

「What's wrong Knight Captain? Why are you in such a tizzy?」

「No umm, the country has contacted us just now!」

He said and handed Dianeia the letter. She tilted her head in confusion and read what was written in the note.

「.....a few days ago the First Princess snuck out of the Capital City and is heading to Prussia. Please TAKE CARE OF HER!?!」

「Y-yes! She's already set off and will be here by tomorrow at the latest!」

「What's that little scamp thinking!?!」

Dianeia thought back.

She was younger than Dianeia, but was closer to the King and a bright and energetic girl.

「W-well, she does have security attached to her, so she should be safe from bodily harm....」

「If she didn't then this would be even more of a problem!」

『My soldiers are strong so I'll be fine!』 or so the private message we'd received said.

「The private forces are strong and she herself is no weakling...so there shouldn't be too much of a problem...I'm around as well.」

Dianeia herself was trained to be proficient in self-defense magic. If the situation arose that required it, she could teleport them back to the castle in an emergency. But,

「Really, their timing is bad.....it can't be helped. We're going to have to revise the defences and patrols. Gather the knights and magic squad Knight Captain. Oh and bring me a report on the current status of the town.」

「Y-yes! As you wish!」

Haa, today was going to be another busy day. She would have to take care of the matter quickly and efficiently so that she could guide Daichi around the town tonight.

「Darn, really...I'm only allowed to be just a normal old magic user in front of Daichi-dono.....」

Well, though she said that now, it couldn't be helped. All she could do now was work as hard as she could so she would have enough time to spend with her most admired person.

As Dianeia thought that, she gazed at the report in her hand,

「Is Dianeia-sama here!?!」

From the hallway she could see Anne running over. Even after she became a normal citizen instead of a Fort City representative, her power gave her the right to come see her whenever,

「What's wrong Anne? Why are you in such a rush?」

「No, I just forgot to communicate something to you that I've remembered.」

「Forgot?」

She wondered what it was. So even she has moments like this.

「Well, I've been pulling all-nighters almost every night so it completely slipped my mind. An acquaintance of mine...a Dragon king, told me via draconic telepathy that she was coming to Prussia.」

「Huh...?」

「They're the 『Supreme』 Dragon King so they're quite strong...as such they sometimes cause some problems and——tte, u-ummm Dianeia-sama? Your eyes are rolled in the back of your head...are you alright?」

「.....HUH!?!」

Dianeia regained consciousness.

「Dr-Dragon King huh...? I see...they're coming huh?」

「Yes. Well they shouldn't be particularly hostile to people...but they're stronger than me. So I came to tell you.」

「I see.....」

Dianeia didn't really understand how to quantify that Dragon King's strength... but at the very least it was stronger than Anne...who was stronger than her. That's dangerous. Why is it dangerous? Because,

「This is a Dragon King that takes pride in their own power correct? Then if they challenged Daichi-dono...then it'd become a war between monsters.」

「Th-that probably won't happen...I don't think...well Daichi-sama would definitely win.」

She also didn't want to think about the possibility, but right now there were a lot of people gathered in Prussia.

This would be the worst time for something like this to happen.

Furthermore, the First Princess was coming...the problems were just piling up.

...Her first task was to cope...she wondered if she'd be able to finish by tonight...

She almost fell into a pit of depression.

But, it couldn't be helped. She'd have to deal with all of this so she could spend some time with him tonight.

「Anne, let me know about this Dragon King.」

「Alright」

It seemed like she'd be working herself to the bone until night fell.

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